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6 February 1984

Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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6 February 1984

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Johannesburg THE STAR in English 5, 10, 11, 12 Jan 84

[Four part article by Fred Bridgland]

[5 Jan 84 p 6]

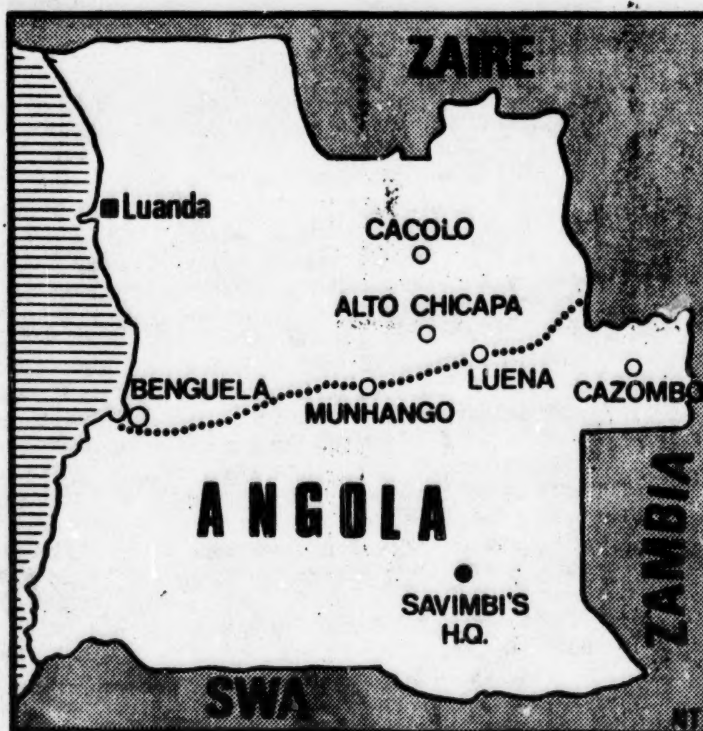
[Text]

No country in Africa has experienced as tumultuous a transition from colonial rule to independence as Angola. Eight years ago the Portuguese withdrew from Angola after five centuries of occupation.

Elections scheduled to mark the country's independence never took place.

Instead a civil war broke out which rapidly escalated to include Cubans, South Africans, Russians, Americans, Chinese and many other nations in a scramble to secure the strategic prize that Angola represents.

In 1976 the war seemed to have ended when the Marxist-oriented Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) formed the first independent government of Angola with Cuban and Soviet military support. But the war has rumbled on ever since, still stoked by



outside powers, and it is now bigger than ever, with the country being laid waste by at least five armies. Entering 1984, Angola is perhaps the key country in a changing and unstable Southern Africa. It is also one of the focal points in international East-West tension.

FRED BRIDGLAND, a British journalist and The Star's special correspondent on Angola, has just returned from a trip to Angola that took him more than 1 000 km into the war-torn country.

Today, in the first of three articles, he assesses the complex fighting in progress.

South African forces were beginning their biggest raid into Angola in two years when I left territory held by the rebel movement Unita at the end of last month.

From bases they established in Angola's Cunene province, South African forces with air and artillery support fanned out through south-west Angola, hitting bases of the South West African Peoples' Organisation.

The current South African offensive is designed to frustrate the annual rainy season offensive by Swapo into Namibia.

Having returned so recently from Angola, questions are fired at me about the South African offensive. To which I have to reply that I didn't see it, but saw an entirely different but perhaps more significant one many hundreds of kilometres further to the north.

While South Africa treats south-west Angola as a shooting gallery in pursuit of Swapo guerrillas, a civil war for Angola itself is being fought with fast-growing intensity between Fapla Government forces and the army of Mr Jonas Savimbi's rebel movement, Unita.

A month before South Africa launched its attacks against Swapo, Unita began its biggest military offensive yet which is designed to force the Government to the negotiating table.

The Unita offensive is on five fronts. To reach one front I travelled from Unita's general headquarters in the south-east by truck 800 km into Angola along the Savimbi Trail. The trail is a network of tracks through the forests of Central Angola which Unita uses to transport war materials to the fighting zones. Some 250 trucks ply the trail, but Mr Savimbi expects to increase his fleet to 400 by the scheduled end of the current offensive next April.

The branch of the trail I followed ended at Munhango, on the Benguela Railway, the strategically important British-owned rail line which neatly bisects Angola into northern and southern halves.

When I visited Unita territory earlier in 1983 the Savimbi Trail ended some 160 km south of the Benguela Railway.

From Munhango I trekked north of the Benguela Railway for more than 160 km through villages and countryside entirely controlled by the rebels to join Brigadier Geraldo Nunda, the 31-year-old commander of Unita's northern military front.

Brigadier Nunda's base was spread over several square kilometres of forest.

Like many other Unita bases I have seen it had a football pitch, military parade ground, open-air theatre, hospital, command centre and communications centre, as well as the dug-out huts housing the troops.

Straight paths marked neatly by bark-stripped stakes linked the different parts of the camp, while overhead droned Antonov aircraft ferrying supplies from Luanda, the Angolan capital, to the major town of Luena (formerly Luso) in eastern Angola where Government and Cuban forces are cut off by land and surrounded by rebel forces.

For three days I walked with Brigadier Nunda's brigade of 2000 soldiers across countryside resembling that described by Rider Haggard in his novels of Africa. There were high, rolling forested hills scoured and interwoven by cliffs and ravines clothed in delicate curtains of green fern.

There were fast-flowing rivers, crossed by rustic Unita bridges, and waterfalls tumbling over cliffs.

We crossed big rivers, such as the Cuango, a tributary of the mighty Congo, by inflatable rubber dinghies carried by the soldiers and by dug-out canoes.

Before the attack on November 29 on the small town of Alto Chicapa, about 160 km north of Luena on the road to Luanda, Geraldo Nunda briefed the three battalions of his brigade around a giant relief model of the town constructed by intelligence officers who had been gathering information for four months.

Two battalions were used in the attack with the third held in reserve. The brigade moved on the town during the night.

As the sun began to rise artillery units pounded it from the west with 81 mm mortar and 75 mm cannon fire.

Then 1000 infantrymen swept in from the north, spraying a sheet of automatic rifle fire before them.

"It should all be over in an hour," Brigadier Nunda told his brigade at the briefing. It took 40 minutes.

When I approached the town with the command group, Fapla dead littered the ground to the north of Alto Chicapa. In the main street Government soldiers, bound and blindfolded, were being interrogated by Unita intelligence officers.

Most of the garrison, estimated at 700-strong before the attack, seemed to

have fled southwards. It is a deliberate rebel ploy to attack in overwhelming numbers — to minimise Unita losses — and so maintain its soldiers' morale — and allow the enemy a clear avenue of escape.

Then began the usual pattern of Unita post-battle activities — the rounding up of the civilian population (described in a Unita communique on the attack as "MPLA prisoners") to be resettled in rebel bases, villages and agricultural cooperatives; the blowing up of the main installations so that the town would be useless to the enemy if ever they recaptured it; and the construction of a new forward military base in the nearby forest in preparation for the next push northwards.

"My soldiers feel they were not really tested, and they want a new and bigger target soon," said Brigadier Nunda. "I'm deciding on one."

I left the brigade and returned southwards towards the railway line. On the way I passed another battalion of 600 Unita soldiers "yomping" northwards at more than 40 km a day, carrying more than 20 kg loads on their heads and backs, to join Brigadier Nunda.

Within three weeks the Nunda brigade had moved another 80 kms northwards and on December 18 overran the major town of Cacolo, on the tar road which links Luanda, on the coast, with the diamond mining province of Lunda in the north-east.

On my way south I passed within 30 km of the Benguela Railway town of Cuemba, where an MPLA brigade is under siege by more than 1 500 regular Unita troops.

The Unita commander, Colonel Ben-Ben Arlindo Pena, said he was delaying the final attack on the garrison ~~until he had collected more intelligence on Government dispositions in the town.~~

The fall of Cuemba would extend Unita-controlled territory onto the most densely populated area of the high Central Plateau, which in the past was the agricultural breadbasket of Angola.

Back in Unita's southern bases Canadian and Portuguese hostages gave eye-witness accounts of another important Unita military victory in the eastern town of Cazombo, in a salient of Angola which juts eastwards between Zambia and Zaire.

Fernando Moreira, a 34-year-old Portuguese who had worked as a shopkeeper in Cazombo for 12 years, said there were about 1 000 Government troops in the town.

"The Unita attack came at 7 am. The firing lasted about an hour, but Fapla lost the initiative after five minutes and most of them started running away towards Zambia.

A column of eight Government trucks carrying weapons, food and other supplies had arrived in the town the night before the attack. The Portuguese said the Unita force captured these along with several other trucks and four tractors, a large supply of weapons and ammunition, and a military warehouse stacked with rice, cooking oil, dried milk, tinned meat and soap.

The Canadians, two missionary nurses, Nora Draper and Marion Wilson, and the 34 Portuguese had been marched southwards through Angola to the base — a distance of about 800 km.

Miss Draper said they were captured by Unita troops at the clinic outside Cazombo where they treated up to 1 000 sick peasant people each day.

"We shut ourselves in our house when the troops arrived," said Miss Draper.

"I had just finished stitching a small head wound on a child who had been hurt in the fighting in Cazombo. The soldiers told us to come out. They put their arms around us and said we were to go with them.

"We didn't know who they were until I noticed Savimbi's portrait on some of their rifle butts. We were very frightened for the first two days, but their captain assured us we would be safe."

The Canadians, who were flown to freedom on Christmas Eve after being released, said they had not expected to be attacked.

[10 Jan 84, p 5]

[Text]

LONDON — As South African forces pound Swapo bases in southern Angola, the rebel Unita movement is pushing battalions of its regular troops across the Benguela railway line into the northern half of the country.



At least 10 Unita battalions of 600 to 800 men each are already across the railway. In two areas the Unita regulars are operating at brigade strength of almost 3 000 men.

Ahead of the battalions — by many months and hundreds of kilometres — guerilla units in groups of 15 to 200 are planting mines, blowing up bridges, ambushing convoys and attacking small outposts.

The Unita military offensive will continue until April, when the rainy season peters out. The aim is threefold:

- To bring Luanda, the Angolan capital, under heavy military pressure;
- To apply equal pressure to the north-eastern diamond mining province of Lunda;
- To force the government to the negotiating table.

The thrust across the Benguela railway is to the north-west and north-east of Huambo, Angola's second biggest city on the densely populated central plateau, and to the north-west and north-east of the eastern railway town of Luena, where a big government and Cuban garrison is surrounded by rebel forces.

The plan is flexible, allowing forces to be concentrated on the capital or the diamond mines according to where most progress is being made.

At present the thrust towards the diamond mines seems to pose most danger to the government.

The commander of Unita's northern front, Brigadier Geraldo Nunda, has led a brigade to Cacolo, a major town 200 km north-west of Luena. Cacolo is on the tar road which is the

only land route between Luanda and the diamond mines.

I have just spent three weeks with Brigadier Nunda's forces. When I left the area I saw more regular troops crossing the Benguela railway line to reinforce his brigade.

Battalions on Unita's eastern front are now crossing the Benguela line to the east of Luena, having just cleared government forces from the Cazombo salient of Angola which juts between Zambia and Zaire.

According to Unita's leader Mr Jonas Savimbi, the forces from the northern and eastern fronts will push towards the diamond mines in a pincer movement with some forces from the northern front hiving off to approach the capital from the east.

Around Huambo the military situation is more difficult to assess since no Western journalist reached this key area in 1983 with either government or rebel troops. However, communiques from both sides show that fighting is going on in the three provinces between Huambo and the capital — Cuanza South, Cuanza North and Luanda.

Both sides are claiming victories. The exception is in the Calulo-Mussende area where in August Unita managed to push a big force to within 175 km of Luanda.

But in late September and October, Unita says, its troops were forced to retreat from that area in the face of major offensives by Cuban-backed FAPLA forces using armour and helicopter gunships.

Inevitably, both sides give different accounts of the counter-offensive. The government said it killed 600 Unita troops. Unita

admitted to 82 dead, an unusually high concession by the rebels, who accused the Angolans of using a Russian commander, a General Valentina, and an East German senior officer, a General Von Statatus, to direct the operation.

Unita claimed the defence of Luanda meant that several brigades had to be moved from other regions and this enabled the rebels to score compensatory victories.

The significant point about the episode is that the government was forced to admit a major clash close to the capital when two years ago the set battles were confined to the south-eastern corner of Angola.

Also, two years ago the MPLA information services were dismissing the rebels as a handful of no more than 300 "fantoques" (bandits). Now the claim is of 600 dead rebels in one operation.

These facts alone should make it clear to those sceptical about rebel claims that something has changed in the state of Angola.

Unita, while admitting a tactical withdrawal, is confident the government's armoured

thrust on the Calulo-Mussende front can be absorbed, as others elsewhere have been.

The tactic is to withdraw before the frontal assault, harass the flanks and engage in direct battle again only after enemy supply lines have become stretched along poor and remote country roads.

Away from Calulo-Mussende, Unita claims greater successes. On the western front two battalions in the high, mist-swirled mountains north-west of Huambo have closed one of the two roads between Huambo and the port of Lobito, and also the coastal road between Lobito and Luanda.

On the central front the major town of Andulo, 200 kms north-east of Huambo, has been overrun — a Unita claim that has not been denied by Luanda. Eight Portuguese civilians were killed in crossfire at Andulo.

The overall pattern is clear — Unita has advanced hundreds of kilometres over the last two years and in 1983 it carried the focus of the war from the south, so that this year the focus is in the north, nearer the capital and the third largest diamond field in the world.

11 Jan 84 p 8]

[Text]

LONDON — The war in Angola will attract increasing international attention in 1984.

The conflict will demand attention as government forces continue to suffer defeats at the hands of rebels and the country has to face the ever-present threat of South African "search and destroy" raids on Swapo bases in Angola.

While the South African occupation of part of the country poses terrible problems for the Angolan Government, the Luanda regime regards the war against Unita as a bigger problem.

The British Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, returned home from a recent visit to Luanda and told his Foreign Office colleagues that the subject Angolan officials talked about most was the internal war.

Unita is relentlessly and methodically establishing control in the Angolan countryside, isolating big Government-held towns and making the country impossible to govern.

In the last 30 months Unita has extended its area of control — which at one time was restricted to the extreme south-east corner of the country — many hundreds of kilometres northwards through Angola.

It is difficult to convey adequately how total and sophisticated is the degree of Unita military control, now extending to more than a third of the country. Military bases, logistics bases, State farms, schools, hospitals and civilian villages under Unita control are scattered throughout the area.

Hundreds of trucks ply up and down the Savimbi Trail carrying supplies right into the centre of Angola.

The trail, which has several branches and stops at the Benguela Railway, is about to be extended across the line into northern Angola. Where major rivers form obstacles, sophisticated wooden road bridges are thrown across them.

One of the mysteries of the Angolan conflict is the great degree of freedom the rebels enjoy from government counter-insurgency measures.

The government has announced the creation of a special force, the Luta Contra Bandits, to penetrate rebel strongholds. So far the LCB seem to be phantom soldiers.

Rebel trucks move freely for many hundreds of kilometres through Angola without any fear of running into enemy mines or ambushes.

Last month I saw a big bridge that had been built by Unita engineers within 80 km of a major military base manned by government forces and Cubans. The bridge spans the Cuana-vale river near the garrison town of Cuito Cuanavale.

Prime target

By all the rules of warfare the bridge should be a prime target for government commando and air attacks. Instead, rebel trucks pour across it unhindered, taking supplies right up to the edge of the densely populated Angolan Central Highlands.

How will the rebels capitalise on this control in the coming years? And why is a government blessed by oil and diamond riches, immense agricultural potential, Cuban army support and Soviet military supplies apparently so unable to stem the tide?

Unita's leader, Mr Jonas Savimbi, is specific about what he hopes to achieve. He wants to bring the government to the negotiating table by April.

At one of his rear bases in south-eastern Angola, the rebel leader said: "Our political aim remains to force the MPLA into negotiations.

"But we have to advance militarily to persuade them to talk."

Mr Savimbi (47), who has led Unita in 17 years of fighting against the Portuguese and MPLA, said he had established contact with a government faction which wanted to negotiate an end to the civil war.

Contacts with the faction were made through Lisbon, and the more Unita extended its military control the more the MPLA faction willing to negotiate grew in strength.

Mr Savimbi's public negotiating terms are tough. He demands:

- The withdrawal of 25 000 Cuban troops in Angola as military allies of the government.
- The establishment of a coalition government between Unita and the MPLA, leading eventually to elections.



Elections are at the root of the civil war. Under the agreement which brought independence to Angola in 1975, the former Portuguese rulers were obliged to organise multi-party elections.

Deadline

The elections, which Unita claims it would have won, never took place and instead the Marxist-Leninist MPLA formed the first government of independent Angola with Cuban and Soviet military support.

Mr Savimbi has given the government a deadline of March by which to open talks.

"If they refuse to negotiate, one more year will be sufficient for us to bring dramatic changes to this country," he said.

"Life will be unliveable here. I think then that the Russians and Cubans will tell the MPLA that they must negotiate."

The official government line is that it cannot talk to South African "puppets" (Unita) and that there must be a military solution to the conflict.

"We know it will not be easy to secure a military victory against Unita, but we know that in the end we will win," a senior Angola army commander recently told Godwin Matatu, Africa correspondent of The Observer.

But Matatu, whose past sympathies have been with the MPLA and whose visit to Luanda was the latest by a

Western newspaper correspondent, added his own comments:

"Seen from the ground in Angola that victory (for the government) appears remote.

"If the conflict persists at its present level and continues to escalate, the leadership in Luanda may well be forced to reverse the present stance and accommodate Jonas Savimbi.

"And the longer they wait the more it will be possible for him to dictate his own terms."

Matatu, writing in the magazine *Africa*, offered a partial picture of why things have become so difficult for the government.

The country's road and rail networks have been paralysed by ambushes and landmines.

Nearly 500 000 people (of a population of six million) have become refugees from the war in their own country and they live in destitution.

The economic resources of the country are being steadily sapped by the war. Defence spending is the largest item in the national budget, eating up more than 40 percent of Angola's foreign currency earnings.

Even where the economy does function, it is with chronic inefficiency. In a well-researched article from Angola's diamond mines last October, Richard Dowden of *The Times* wrote:

"Angola has a serious smuggling problem. According to Senor Alberto Bento Ribeiro, the Minister of Industry, Angola has lost more than R120 million in diamond revenue over the past 18 months through smuggling, possibly a third of total production.

"Diamang (the Angolan State diamond mining company) will make no profit this financial year — an extraordinary situation for a diamond producer."

The Unita campaign to cripple the Benguela Railway, which once transported copper and cobalt from Zaire and Zambia to the Atlantic, is costing the Government more than R100 million a year in lost transit fees.

Food-exporter

Before independence Angola was a food-exporting nation. Now, largely because of bad management, the country imports 90 percent of its needs.

Angolan money has become virtually worthless because of high inflation

with barter becoming favoured over official currency transactions.

The economic difficulties pose another problem — morale among government troops.

Mr Savimbi and other Unita officials certainly argue that one of their trump cards is the collapsing morale of government soldiers.

From what I saw of the battle for Alto Chicapa last November 29 there seems to be some truth in this claim.

I suspect the battle for Alto Chicapa was over before it began.

The garrison had no grain and was down to its last few tins of pork luncheon meat. The tinned meat was being supplemented by a diet of green mangoes and bananas.

There was no electricity. The power station generator was in working order, but there was no diesel fuel to drive it.

There was no running water because of the lack of electricity to pump water from the river to the town reservoir. Toilets in the barracks and in the gracious stucco colonial houses, occupied by officers, were hideously blocked.

The only transport possessed by the garrison were two trucks without wheels.

One prisoner, a Sergeant Andre (22), commander of a platoon of 50 men, said three of his soldiers and 120 from the garrison as a whole had deserted.

The sergeant, who may of course have been considering what his captors would like to hear, went on: "They were leaving because of hunger. It is three months since trucks last reached us with supplies.

Trump card

"In many cases we were having to survive by stealing.

"When the local population caught Fapla forces stealing, they attacked us with bows and arrows and guns. We weren't supplied regularly with food because we had no Cubans or East Germans with us."

The disintegration of MPLA morale may be one trump card for Unita.

The reluctance of the government's Cuban allies to come out of the major towns and fight is undoubtedly another.

"We are preparing for the assault on the towns because there will come a moment when it is politically important to take them, but we will have to pay a high price in lives."

[Text]

Unita leader Mr Jonas Savimbi makes no secret of, and offers no apology for, the support he admits he receives from South Africa.

"We had no choice other than to accept South African help. Unless you consider accepting domination by the Russians and Cubans as a choice?"

"We could either accept being crushed or we could resist. To resist we had to resist with the help of somebody," he said in an interview at his base in south-east Angola.

Mr Savimbi makes the point that Unita also receives help from a number of Arab countries, including Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Egypt, where a Unita pilot has recently been trained.

He declines to name black African countries which give Unita support, but they include neighbouring Zaire and Zambia, where the link man between Unita and President Kenneth Kaunda is former Foreign Minister Rupiah Banda.

Unita currently controls the entire 1 100 km Angolan border with Zambia and also 320 km of border with Zaire.

The Angolan Government maintains that Unita is a puppet group — an arm of the South African Defence Force.

But, strongly though Unita depends on South African supplies, this is too simplistic an analysis.

Unita was founded almost 20 years ago to fight the Portuguese at a time when Lisbon was in alliance with Pretoria against all African liberation movements.

Essentially, Unita is an African nationalist movement whose leader counts Che Guevara and Mao Tse-tung among his old friends and mentors.

Convenience

But the movement has entered a marriage of convenience with South Africa based on a coincidence of geo-political interests.



"The South Africans are thinking in terms of a strategy against the Russian, Cubans, and Swapo," said Mr Savimbi. "They found that by supporting Unita they could stop these people from influencing things in Namibia."

The Unita leader believes that if the Cubans withdrew from Angola the South Africans would have no choice other than to withdraw from Namibia.

"Sooner or later the international community will have to come to terms with the fact that, while the Cubans remain in Angola, the South Africans will use it as an excuse for not leaving Namibia."

"If the Cubans leave Angola, the South Africans will have to relinquish Namibia. They will no longer have any excuse. So the Cubans can win freedom for Namibia tomorrow by going home to Havana."

I saw no evidence in central Angola that Unita and South African forces are fighting together. But South African operations in Cunene Province undoubtedly help Unita by pinning down government troops which might otherwise be directed against the rebels.

And, although both Unita and the SADF deny it, it is hard to

believe the two do not exchange intelligence.

Further, although Unita maintains a large guerilla force in Cunene Province, it has never offered to take Western journalists to the area to prove beyond speculation that the rebels are not benefiting directly from the South African offensive into the district.

Demanded

I put it to Mr Savimbi that surely the South Africans had demanded something from Unita in return for support.

"Well, the South Africans never asked me to sign any document. But we are conscious of the fact that since they are giving us aid they hope for co-operation in the future. It is a law of life."

So what co-operation would he give them?

"Friendship. I think that is what they want. I would invite (The Prime Minister) Mr Botha to my own capital and receive him as head of state.

"Kaunda meets him on other people's borders, but I will challenge him on my own ground. And when he visits me I will not, I cannot, become less black than I am."

"And because I am willing to talk to South Africa does not mean I believe in apartheid. I cannot. Things must change in South Africa. There are two ways things can change there — through reform or revolution.

"But I tell you that if there is a revolution against the Boers (sic) the consequences will be unpredictable.

"Those people are incredibly tough. They cannot be compared to the Portuguese or the Rhodesians. There is no guarantee that a revolution in South Africa would give power to a majority.

"A revolution in the Republic will spill over into the rest of Southern and Central Africa in unpredictable ways. So I think reforms are better in South Africa.

"People say the current reforms are cosmetic, but it needs courage to take the first step.

No peace in sight as all sides stand firm on principles

In international terms Angola is important because Soviet and Cuban prestige is at stake.

Ideologically there is a fundamental clash between the government's Marxist-Leninist belief that a complete transformation of Angolan society must be brought about with the industrial proletariat as the vanguard, and Unita's belief that the central aim must be an agricultural revolution which recognises the importance of the rural peasant majority and respect for traditional culture and values.

A Cuban and Soviet withdrawal from Angola would have unpredictable consequences for their prestige on the African continent and globally.

It is hard, therefore, to believe they will relinquish their tenuous hold on the country easily.

It is equally hard to imagine the South Africans will back down on their stand over the future of Namibia or that the rebels will give up their fight.

So the prospects for Angola in 1984 are for increased bloodshed.

All those peasants and workers, for whom everyone expresses such concern, had better save their dreams of peace.

No reform was ever completed overnight, but a first step requires a second step, and a second a third."

It is controversial political thinking like this which illustrates the importance of the struggle in Angola.

Committed

The present government is committed to the philosophy of "total onslaught" against South Africa, giving shelter to Swapo guerillas and also to guerillas of the African National Congress.

The consequences so far have been onslaught in the reverse direction.

Mr Savimbi is committed to dialogue with Pretoria and a peaceful evolution of South Africa's internal policies. He believes that if he comes to power in Angola, then neighbouring Zaire, Zambia, Botswana and, in due course, Zimbabwe, would go along with such a policy.

It would give each country the opportunity it needs to concentrate on development, he argues, and it would not hinder the inevitable collapse of apartheid from its own inherent contradictions and internal South African pressures.

ALMEIDA CHRONICLES RSA AGGRESSIONS

MB200705 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Speech by Roberto de Almeida, secretary for ideology of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee at a ceremony held in Luanda on 18 February to mark the 23d anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle for national liberation]

[Excerpts] In the history of each people there are dates which, in view of their importance, have become lasting symbols of collective determination. For us Angolans, one such date is undoubtedly 4 February 1961, the 23d anniversary of which we will celebrate within days. Let us recall, comrades, that it was on this date that gallant MPLA combatants, interpreting the most profound feelings of all the people and armed with simple pangas, dared to challenge the Portuguese colonial giant thus beginning an unequal but just fight which would result victorious.

Comrades, the events that we have dealt with today deserve a great deal of reflection from all of us. It is a unique episode in the history of our people which culminated with freedom and national independence--the most precious commodity that each one of us has. This is even more important when, at this moment, imperialist forces are attempting to row against the tide with a desire of depriving us of the trophies that our people have gained in hard and long battles.

I would like to quote the late comrade president, Agostinho Neto, to recall that we have our own identity. For 5 long centuries our people were victim of an (?abominal) colonial domination, but we resisted and won. That is why (Muzingambande), (Ekwikwi), (Manduno), Hoje Ayenda, (Deolinga Rodrigues), (Dandula) and [words indistinct]. The murderous fury of the colonial enemy proved to be futile, because it failed to prevent the coming of the rain and the flourishing of national independence and the taste of freedom and victory from the corpses and tombs of our heroes.

Today our country is victim of aggression by the most barbaric enemy of the peoples of Africa as a whole--the Pretoria racist regime. Since 1975 the racist South Africans have not granted us a minute of peace so that we can deal with the various tasks of national reconstruction. You all remember the tragic moments that we lived when Comrade President Agostinho Neto, the immortal leader of the Angolan revolution, was forced to order the general

popular resistance. We were about to declare independence and at that time the Pretoria regime, which was already working with the UNITA renegades, launched a huge aggression against the country with a view of annihilating the MPLA and installing their puppets in power.

In a matter of weeks the well-trained units of the racist army, counting on the support of the United States, advanced from illegally occupied Namibia to the central part of southern Angola while devastating everything they came across. However, the emerging People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] managed to repulse the enemy at the expense of many sacrifices, and independence was proclaimed before Africa and the world. With the help of Cuban internationalists, the USSR, and progressive African countries, coupled with the indomitable desire of the Angolan people to not see their victory frustrated, we managed to neutralize the plans of imperialism.

To the north, the invading columns were destroyed and returned to their point of origin as fast as they had come in search of false glories. To the south, the racist South African army, believing in what was regarded as its undefeatable superiority and skills, was defeated and forced to withdraw shamelessly.

Ironically, the imperialists have so far failed to learn the lesson. On the contrary, while enjoying favorable international circumstances such as the growing anticommunist hysteria in the United States, the Pretoria regime has launched increasingly violent aggressions against the People's Republic of Angola with the aim of destroying the revolution that is taking place in our country.

In August 1981 it launched an unprecedented offensive which resulted in the occupation of important parts of the national territory, which South Africa transformed into springboards for the puppet groups—its complementary force. At one stage, such groups managed to mislead the least motivated among our forces, thanks to the spectacular actions that were always carried out under the direct coordination of the Pretoria strategists. If certain propaganda circles in the West called this victory, they forgot to characterize the context in which such actions occurred. Above all, it was a skillful diversionist maneuver which was orchestrated with the aim of romanticizing mere renegades and puppets for the benefit of a public which is fascinated with the exotic image of alleged guerrillas moving through the bush as Edgar Rice Burroughs idealized in Tarzan's adventures.

It was as we predicted. Soon after the emergence of the first concrete results from the general mobilization, declared on 23 August 1983 by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos with an aim of annihilating the puppets, South Africa launched a large-scale aggression against our country. This aggression is important because of the means that were employed. With an aim of protecting its proteges from a crippling blow by FAPLA forces, South Africa is still carrying out its objective of widening the occupied areas of the Angolan territory. This is a macabre plan which concerns all Angolans.

Some 23 years have passed since a group of combatants shook the colonial apparatus on the night of 4 February. Today, we are millions, and the responsibility of leading Angola on the paths outlined by the revolution still rests upon us. Certainly, if we lose even one minute we face the risk of betraying the generous blood of all those who fell for those noble objectives. Above all, there is an urgent need to face the situation with singleness of purpose, in view of the tasks of reconstruction of the socialist fatherland.

It has been through the relentless struggle for the triumph of the idea of revolution that the MPLA has forged into unity. There is, therefore, an essential relationship between unity and struggle. It is only when we are united and capable of overcoming personal priorities that we will be able to face the challenge that history has put to us. It was like this on 4 February 1961. The strategy and tactic that have been adopted by the MPLA have always proved to be correct and the same will apply to the future.

Eternal glory to the heroes of the revolution.

Long live 4 February.

The struggle continues. Victory: [crowd: is certain]

CSO: 3442/265

OFFICIAL VISITS BIE PROVINCIAL MUNICIPALITIES

MB221240 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel (Marques Monacapuwe Bassavava), deputy chairman of the 4th Region Military Council, has made a working visit to Andulo and Nharea municipalities in Bie Province, thus refuting the report which has been circulating in the provincial capital that Nharea village was under control of UNITA puppets.

According to a broadcast by the Bie regional radio station, Nharea was attacked and briefly occupied on 4 January, but the glorious People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] counterattacked and repulsed the enemy. When they recaptured the village later, they saw that during the brief occupation of many of its residents were massacred and a number of its residences were destroyed. During the visit to the village by the deputy chairman of the 4th Military Region, the People's Defense Organization commander in Nharea called for increased support for the local combatants from the competent provincial structures so as to overcome certain difficulties currently facing the combatants.

Meanwhile, in Benguela Province, 20 UNITA gangsters were killed and 4 others were captured in actions carried out by the glorious FAPLA on 8 and 19 January in Bocoio, Balombo, and Chongoroi municipalities. The operations also led to the freeing of 87 members of the public whom the bandits were holding captive in the bush, the retrieval of 101 head of cattle which had been robbed from the population, and the capture of South African-made PN landmines. Our forces also killed 28 other bandits and seized 13 South African-made weapons when a puppet gang was forced to flee after failing in its attempt to storm (Mobolo) Village, where it had intended to rob the residents of their foodstuffs.

Defense and security sources in Benguela point out that 258 puppets were killed in the last quarter of last year, 7 others were taken prisoner, and 41 weapons and 7 antitank mines were also captured during the same period. In Huambo Province, four UNITA counterrevolutionaries who were part of a group which was attempting to massacre members of the public in a village of Chicala Municipality in (Chaluanga) were killed. In Cuanza Norte, 21 bandits were killed and another was taken prisoner when a puppet gang attempted to infiltrate the Samba Lucala commune.

CSO: 3442/265

BRIEFS

GDR AID TO ANGOLA—The People's Republic of Angola has received a donation from the GDR of goods destined for the victims of South African aggression to our country. Johannes Schulz, GDR ambassador to Angola, made the symbolic donation of that consignment of materials to (Manuel Quarta-Punza), secretary of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party for administration and finance, during a ceremony which took place at the commercial port of Luanda yesterday. Schulz said on this occasion that the gift showed the solidarity of the party, government, and people of the GDR with the Angolan people in their struggle to defend their already achieved gains against a South African invasion. He also stated that the Angolan people may always count on the solidarity and support of the GDR in their struggle against imperialism. [Text] [MB271521 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 26 Jan 84]

LABOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS RESHUFFLED—Minister of Labor and Social Security Horacio Braz da Silva has issued two dispatches in Luanda announcing some reshuffles with a view to improving the structure of his ministry and bringing greater efficiency in meeting national needs and making more rational use of the present cadres. In this context, the minister of labor has relieved (Jose Alvaro Tangué), national manpower director, and (Manuel da Costa), the provincial delegate of the Ministry of Labor in Huambo, of their posts and appointed (Joaquim Pedro Kuyanga) to fill the post of provincial delegate until further notice. In the second dispatch, Braz da Silva appointed (Rudolfo Lourenco Cardoso e Silva) as the acting national manpower director. (Manuel da Costa) was appointed as the head of the Manpower Directorate and (Jose Maria Yapinga) was appointed to the post of provincial delegate of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security in Cunene Province. [Text] [MB201848 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 20 Jan 84]

ANTI-APARTHEID DELEGATION VISITS—Luanda, 27 Jan (ANGOP)—A delegation of the International Commission Against Apartheid (ICSA) led by its secretary general Vassos Lassarides paid an official visit to the People's Republic of Angola from 23 to 25 January. During its stay in Angola, the delegation held discussions with Lucio Lara, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party and secretary of the Central Committee in charge of organization and with Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, secretary of the Central Committee in charge of external relations, in order to analyze the international situation and particularly the situation prevailing in southern Africa. The Angolan side informed the ICSA delegation about the present escalation of

South Africa's attacks against Angola with the aim of hindering its irreversible march toward the building of socialism in Angola. For its part, the ICOSA delegation strongly condemned the escalation of the attacks of the apartheid regime and the South African Army's illegal occupation of part of the Angolan territory as well as the linkage of Namibia's independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The two parties condemned the illegal occupation of Namibia by racist South Africa and demanded the immediate application of resolution 435/78 of the UN Security Council. [Text] [AB271327 Luanda ANGOP in French 1135 GMT 27 Jan 84]

CSO: 3419/373

NEW SHIP REPAIR YARD ON SAO VICENTE DESCRIBED

Praia VOZ DI POVO in Portuguese 3 Dec 83 pp 6-7

[Article by Daniel dos Santos, including his interview with Leonildo Monteiro, resident administrator of the Cape Verde Shipyard; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] "Unbelievable! The fact is that Matiota Beach is no longer on the map."

"Oh, come on, man! Don't talk nonsense."

"Can't you see that Cape Verde has a shipyard now?"

To the reporter, who was dissatisfied with something that had not gone right--he had no money with which to hire a taxi if he had to go somewhere and, on top of that, would have no place to stay--the above dialogue between two boys, overheard on Marginal Avenue and carefully recorded in his notebook, has a certain significance.

What it boils down to is delight on the one hand that Cape Verde now has a shipyard (it is the country's biggest economic undertaking to date and will keep that title for some time to come) and, on the other, sadness and regret at the disappearance of Matiota Beach, which is where the shipyard was built.

The two boys continued their conversation, shifting from the shipyard to soccer. As a rule, sorrow and joy are antagonistic: sorrow because there is no beach, but joy because the shipyard, a big source of foreign exchange, exists.

The dedication of the shipyard was cause for celebration. To tell the truth, the celebration began with the arrival of the Derby soccer team, which had gone to Praia to win one more trophy. Dozens of fans, some of them carrying team flags, were giving Derby an ordinary and simple welcome. There was nothing outstanding about it, but it was ardent and lively.

The town of Mindelo awakened early. Time off had been granted so that everyone, employees and students, could attend the ceremony. Marginal Avenue was crowded with people from every corner of the island. They had smiles on their faces and were clearly satisfied with the facility that was going to be officially opened.

That was the start of festivities that lasted into the night. Very strange and very interesting--Matiota Beach converted into a shipyard.

Shipyard May Be Expanded

Well-informed circles confirm that the ship repair yard on Matiota Beach may be expanded in the future, although so far there are not even any plans for that second stage. Expansion will depend to a large extent on many factors, some of them linked to developments in the market itself.

From the technical angle, there is no doubt that the shipyard is arranged so that it can be expanded. But from the commercial standpoint, nothing can be predicted yet, according to what VOZ 71 POVO was told by reliable sources.

By the end of 1983, 20 vessels from seven countries will have been repaired, and the resulting billing will total \$1 million. That is a quite favorable figure when one considers that CABNAVE [Cape Verde Shipyard] is already collecting approximately 30,000 contos, and it is due to the marketing efforts undertaken among customers some time ago and the technical ability and competence of the managers and workers.

Some floating repairs had been made beginning in October 1982. And from 21 August, when the shipyard actually began operations, through November, 12 ships had been hauled up and repaired, even though the repair facilities were not completely finished. Despite that circumstance, the shipyard was able to satisfy its customers completely.

A brochure published in connection with the official opening of the shipyard and provided to us states: "Of the repairs carried out, we can mention the work done on the 'Biscay Seahorse,' a tug/supply vessel for oil rigs, involving 20 tons of steel, and 'Pontoon 601,' belonging to the Les Abeilles International firm, work on which involved 74 tons of steel."

The document goes on to say: "The orders from shipowners such as Les Abeilles International, Seahorse, Inc., Zapriba, COBRECAF, ENAPOR, Pancrario Lopes, Tunamara, the CNN, the CN Arca Verde, and so on illustrate the confidence placed in CABNAVE's ability to carry out sizable repairs right from the start of its activity."

The high output achieved is the result of efficient organization, the combined efforts of the workers, and the excellent facilities and equipment that exist--all of which guarantee the execution of any type of repair in internationally competitive conditions.

Shipyard Project Cost 2.8 Million Contos

In his speech at the official ceremony opening the shipyard, Osvaldo Lopes da Silva, Cape Verde's minister of economy and finance, said that negotiations with the banks for financing the shipyard project did not begin to go well until the Dutch Government assumed responsibility for financing the cold storage facilities belonging to INTERBASE [Cape Verdian Fishing Infrastructures Company] and the desalinization plant.

The total cost of the project is estimated at 2.8 million contos, to which must be added the fixed assets, working capital, and inventories that are the responsibility of the enterprise with the concession to operate the shipyard.

The African Development Bank [ADB], a financing organization on our continent, is the largest financier of the project, having provided \$13 million.

Discussing the ADB's participation in the project, Osvaldo Lopes da Silva said: "There is no better way for us to respond to the specific demonstrations of African solidarity that have been so generously lavished on us through the ADB group in the form of financing on special terms."

The General Deposit Bank of Portugal contributed \$12 million, while the European Investment Bank granted the Treasury a loan of 3.5 million European units of account to round out the Bank of Cape Verde's loan for establishing CABMAR's capital.

The Bank of Cape Verde also contributed another \$3 million to the project in addition to the above-mentioned loan. On several occasions, it provided other short-term bridging loans to meet urgent needs for supplies.

The bank has closely followed all stages in the execution of the project--from evaluation of the technical and financial feasibility studies to the talks concerned with the financial and institutional arrangements for the project.

CABNAVE Training Center

Since July 1983, when it began duly operating, the CABNAVE Training Center in Ribeira Juliao has trained 139 trainee-students.

The center, which is regarded as a firm support for ensuring the technical efficiency of the shipyard, has trained 26 fitters, 10 welders, 16 scraper-painters, 12 pipefitters, 29 machinists, 25 ship handlers, 7 maintenance men, 5 industrial cleanup men, and 9 electricians, and the results have been quite favorable.

The training center in Ribeira Juliao can handle an average of 40 students per day and a maximum of 60. Number of classes per year: 50; and number of students per year: 400. Basic trade courses, specialized courses, courses for foremen, administrators, technicians, and managers, and language courses are taught at the center.

A complex of classrooms for theoretical subjects and another with social amenities are the main facilities at the center. The center's staff consists of three theoretical instructors trained as engineers and two practical instructors. The other subjects are taught by instructors from the shipyard.

The school uses audiovisual teaching aids--slides, recordings, and films--in its theoretical classes and basic equipment for practical instruction: tools, an intensive training unit, universal machines, and so on.

CABNAVE Plans To Build Ships

CABNAVE's ship repair facility--the largest enterprise ever built in Cape Verde--is located on Sao Vicente Island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

It was designed, built, and equipped to provide every service necessary for fishing fleets, freighters, tugboats, oil rig support vessels, and the equipment used in exploring for and extracting petroleum.

Any type of repair on ships passing through the area or calling at the ports on our continent's west coast can also be provided by the shipyard, since it has everything needed for that kind of work.

With a view to ensuring the quality and efficiency of the shipyard, a company known as CABNAVE was established, its owners being Cape Verde, LISNAVE [Lisbon Shipyard], the Scheepswerf De Waal Corporation, and Antonio Spencer Vieira.

The Cape Verdian Government provided the infrastructures and other services necessary for the complete functioning of the shipyard, while LISNAVE, using its know-how, provided all its organizational support and technical assistance, giving CABNAVE what it needed to recruit managers, technicians, workers, and so on.

The De Waal firm, which built and delivered the platform (the slipway), made sure of the system's operational efficiency.

The facilities are located on approximately 10 hectares of land that was reclaimed from the sea using earthfill obtained when the rugged cliff directly overlooking the sea was razed a little over 2 years ago.

The system for hauling vessels out of the water--a sideslip with lateral transfer--consists of the slip itself, which enters the sea to a depth of 8 meters and is equipped with a platform measuring 95 x 18 meters and capable of lifting 2,800 tons, and six 110-meter-long docks for dry repairs. The system as constituted makes it possible to haul up vessels measuring up to 110 meters in length and weighing 6,500 dwt.

The shipyard possesses a range of very well-equipped facilities, examples being shops for carpentry, machining, pipe work, electricity and electronics, boilerwork, and scraping and painting, in addition to the hoisting and transportation equipment and a complex network for electricity and fluids.

Repairs on ships afloat can be carried out next to the berth that was built and equipped for that purpose. The berth is 140 meters long, with a depth alongside of 6 meters.

CABNAVE, the enterprise authorized to operate the shipyard commercially for an initial period of 15 years under a leasing contract, employs 240 workers, 139 of whom were given vocational training in July 1983. The plan is to increase the number of personnel to 700 in 1986, which is when the shipyard will reach its full operating capacity.

In the field of shipbuilding, CABNAVE plans to build ships with the help of the Scheepswerf De Waal Corporation.

Interview With Administrator Leonildo Monteiro

Engineer Leonildo Monteiro, general director of CABMAR and resident administrator of CABNAVE, granted our newspaper an interview in which he analyzed several matters related to the shipyard: specifically, the project itself, its commercial launching, and the training of cadres. Here is that interview.

Leonildo Monteiro: When all is said and done, the Cape Verde Shipyard is the result of an old idea for building a shipyard. That original plan, which dates back to the colonial era, called for a larger shipyard, but because of changes in the international situation in merchant shipping--chiefly as regards the transportation of petroleum--it was never carried out.

After national independence, the government was concerned to boost Cape Verde's economy, and it drew up the plan for what is now the shipyard. That plan, the idea for which had been resurrected in early 1976, had to be evaluated, and economic-financial feasibility studies were conducted in terms of the market that could currently be attracted to that type of activity in Cape Verde.

Thus emerged the idea for the shipyard on Sao Vicente. Why Sao Vicente? Precisely because the same study indicated that Sao Vicente was the most suitable site for the kind of customers we were looking for.

VOZ DI POVO: Has the shipyard project been completely carried out?

Leonildo Monteiro: Yes, it has. The shipyard, with the facilities it comprises, is practically complete, with the exception of a few final touches that in no way hinder its operation. Putting it simply, the facilities at this shipyard are designed to permit the addition of a second stage in the future. That stage would consist of building a floating dock to handle bigger vessels. Obviously, going ahead with that second stage will depend on market developments themselves and the worldwide economic situation, because our shipyard is intended to provide service for the international market.

VOZ DI POVO: The shipyard project is expensive. What did the project consist of?

Leonildo Monteiro: We can divide the project into two parts. The first involves the fixed assets for which CABMAR is fully responsible. They are estimated at \$37.5 million, or approximately 2.8 million contos. We provided part of that capital ourselves and obtained the rest of it through financing. The Bank of Cape Verde provided \$3 million, the ADB \$13 million, and the General Deposit Bank \$12 million. Our own share--that is, the part for which the state is responsible--was obtained through a loan obtained partly from the European Investment Bank and partly from the Bank of Cape Verde.

The European Investment Bank granted the government a loan of 3.5 million European units of account, while the Bank of Cape Verde granted the Treasury a loan of \$5 million. Fixed assets, working capital, and inventories that are the responsibility of the enterprise licensed to operate the shipyard--and that is CABNAVE--must be up to around \$2 million now. So overall, the project must be costing about \$40 million.

VOZ DI POVO: The international market is often a tough one. Are ships currently showing an inclination to use the shipyard?

Leonildo Monteiro: The shipyard started off in quite precarious conditions, but even so, we have had some success in this preoperational phase. So far--since 21 August, when the shipyard began operating--about 10 vessels have been repaired. We now have more orders, the outlook is good, and it is guaranteed that the shipyard will be busy through the end of 1983.

VOZ DI POVO: What can you tell us about the equipment?

Leonildo Monteiro: As you know, the shipyard is located on 10 hectares of flat land. A very important part of the shipyard is the sideslip with lateral transfer. That slip is equipped with a platform that moves under the slip itself to the seabed 8 meters below the surface.

The platform has a lifting capacity of 2,800 tons and measures 95 x 18 meters. It can lift vessels with a maximum length of 110 meters and a weight of 6,500 deadweight tons.

Also part of the hauling system are six lateral repair docks--three on each side--where the vessels are placed for repair. There is a 140-meter-long berth where the depth is 6 meters and where ships can tie up. There is also a complete system of infrastructure consisting of shops for boilerwork, mechanical repair, electricity, and so on. All of that makes up the shipyard.

About \$4.2 million were spent on equipment.

VOZ DI POVO: The existence of the shipyard obviously requires the establishment of many facilities, specifically hotels, transportation, and communications. We would like to know if there are any plans in that area.

Leonildo Monteiro: Sao Vicente did not have the necessary infrastructures for handling an undertaking of this kind. So the launching of a project of this type involves the construction of other facilities that are indispensable to

its smooth operation. While CABNAVE was busy building the shipyard, the government was investing in the construction of peripheral infrastructures, chiefly the water supply system. There is also the project for setting up a generating set in the power plant, and that is underway. There are also the cold storage facilities for INTERBASE (indispensable for attracting the fishing fleet), as well as housing, roads, and so on. A telecommunications project is also underway. So there is a whole series of peripheral investments that the government has had to make so that the shipyard can do its job.

VOZ DI POVO: What is this shipyard's capacity?

Leonildo Monteiro: As I said, the shipyard can handle 110-meter-long vessels of 6,500 dwt. It has six docks that can handle six vessels of different sizes.

VOZ DI POVO: What can you tell us about the commercial launching of the shipyard?

Leonildo Monteiro: The commercial launching of the shipyard was the responsibility of CABMAR. While CABMAR was busy building the shipyard, CABNAVE took charge of its organization--that is, setting up the entire infrastructure, training the national operating personnel to be employed in the shipyard, and promoting the shipyard itself.

The first promotion took place in 1982 when we laid the cornerstone. We invited foreign firms, representatives of classification societies and insurance companies, and so on. And from that point on, they began to pay attention to the shipyard. For its opening, a large number of people--potential customers--were invited.

VOZ DI POVO: Maintaining the shipyard requires a high level of skill on the part of the workers. What can you tell us about that?

Leonildo Monteiro: As you know, various contractors were in charge of construction. CABMAR was in constant contact with the contractors, and they supplied their own personnel. We cannot interfere with their personnel, since each contractor is responsible for his own employees.

One of the facilities making up the enterprise is the Vocational Training Center in Ribeira Juliao, where theoretical and practical courses are followed by on-the-job training for the national work force that will be employed on ship repairs. Those employees are recruited primarily from the technical school on Sao Vicente. Parallel with that, CABNAVE is recruiting national cadres at various levels.

VOZ DI POVO: Another problem facing the shipyard is competition from other shipyards in the region. What do you think of this?

Leonildo Monteiro: Any enterprise serving the international market must expect competition. The studies that were made indicated the advisability of building this shipyard. In other words, there is room for one more shipyard in the region. Now the problem is one of winning the market. Our competitors are

Dakar, Las Palmas, and Abidjan. I must say that our stiffest competitors are the shipyards in Las Palmas and Abidjan.

VOZ DI POVO: On the guest list, it is easy to spot representatives of classification societies and insurance companies. Do you feel that that is because the awareness of the customers has been increased?

Leonildo Monteiro: It is not really a matter of making the customers aware of the market. We are taking advantage of this opportunity to make a commercial impact. Our purpose is to make the ceremony pay commercial dividends.

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CSO: 3442/238

THIRD COUNCIL MEETING OF AETU ENDS

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 7 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Participants of the third regular meeting of the central Committee of the All Ethiopia Trade Union (AETU) yesterday noted that the necessary preparations are being made at an intensified level so that workers will colourfully celebrate the forthcoming event of party formation and the tenth anniversary of the Ethiopian Revolution.

The participants also agreed to give the proper education to workers to enable them to live up to their historic responsibilities of translating into deeds political, economic and social programmes charted out for the construction of the new system.

The joint stand of the participants of the third regular meeting of the Central Committee of AETU was expressed yesterday at the conclusion of a three-day meeting in which the participants exchanged extensive views based on reports by the AETU Central Control Committee, the nine industrial trade union sectors and the regional trade unions.

The participants also approved a draft programme of their council for the coming six months.

Closing the meeting, Comrade Tadesse Tamirat, Chairman of the AETU, said that the directives which the AETU Council gives and the decisions it passes are well co-ordinated with the long-term objectives of workers. He noted the role expected of executive committee members of workers' unions in the task of co-ordinating the contributions of workers so that the long-term objectives would bear fruit.

Comrade Tadesse lauded in this connection the implementation of the decision adopted by the second regular meeting of the AETU Central Committee. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/560

REPUBLIC OF KOREA DONATES PHOTO LAB EQUIPMENT

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 6 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] The Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) of the Ministry of Information and National Guidance yesterday secured a donation of a photo laboratory equipment from the government of the Republic of Korea.

Ambassador Deuk Pokim of the Republic of Korea to Socialist Ethiopia, handed over the equipment to Comrade Merid Bekele, Acting Head of ENA, at a ceremony held at the ENA head office here.

Ambassador Kim expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the government and people of Socialist Ethiopia to advance the socio-economic construction of the country. He noted the successful endeavours of the country in the literacy campaign and in enlightening the people in the path of nation building.

Ambassador Kim also pledged to exert unreserved effort to strengthen the relations and cooperation of the two countries.

Speaking for his part, Comrade Merid said that it was not the first time that the government of the Republic of Korea was making such a donation. The present donation, he said, would help to reinforce the work of the news agency.

Comrade Merid further pointed out that the donation indicates the friendship and relations of the peoples of the two countries. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/560

BRIEFS

EDUCATIONAL MEETING IN KEY-BAHR--MASSAWA ENA)—A meeting organized to strengthen curriculum development and technological centres in the Key-Bahr province of Eritrea region was held here recently. Among the topics discussed were the preparation of a socialist educational curriculum, the aims and functions of educational centres and the proper handling and utilization of public property. Taking part in the meeting were school directors in the province, chairmen of educational guidance committees, educational centre representatives and kebele officials. Addressing the meeting, Comrade Kibrom Tekle, Administrator of the provincial educational office, stressed the need to apply theoretical knowledge in different spheres. Participants of the meeting later toured workshops operating under the educational development centre. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 4 Jan 84 p 1]

SWEDISH HEALTH AID—An agreement for the implementation of the 1.6 million birr the Swedish had granted in aid for Ethiopia's health programme was signed here yesterday at the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council (NRDC-CPSC). The agreement was signed on behalf of the Ethiopian Government by Comrade Aklilu Afework, Head of the Production Sector of the NRDC-CPSC with the Rank of Commissioner, and Swedish Ambassador Nils G. Revelius on behalf of the Swedish Government. Present during the signing of the agreement were pertinent officials of the Central Planning Supreme Council and members of the Swedish International Development Agency mission here. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 28 Dec 83 p 1]

CSO: 3400/560

MALI

BRIEFS

JAPANESE AID AGREEMENT--Bamako, 27 Jan (AFP)--Japan is to supply rice to the West African state of Mali and help the country to increase its food production, under two agreements signed here Thursday by Malian Foreign Minister Alioune Blondin Beye and the Japanese charge d'affaires in Bamako. Under the agreement Japan is to sell Mali 10,000 tons of rice and provide some 800,000 dollars to increase food production in the Niger Delta area. Japanese aid to Mali, which covers transport, water resources, food, health and rural development, amounts to around 2 million dollars. [Excerpt] [AB270950 Paris AFP in English 0942 GMT 27 Jan 84 AB]

CSO: 3400/587

CAMPAIGN TO OUST BANDITS FROM SOFALA PROVINCE DESCRIBED

Maringue District Center Destroyed

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 28 Dec 83 p 3

[Article by Antonio Sefane]

[Text] Armed bandits were recently driven from the Maringue District administrative center thanks to victorious military operations by the Mozambique Armed Forces [FAM]-FPLM [Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique]. Horacio Sande Cubera, an officer in the FAM-FPLM who participated in the military offensive to expel the bandits from the administrative center of that district in Sofala Province, told the DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE: "The enemy left in a rout, leaving behind on the battlefield several dead, miscellaneous military equipment, and property that had been taken from the inhabitants by force."

The military operation to expel the armed bandits from Maringue began in early September with the concentration of a contingent of our armed forces in Sena, also in Sofala Province. During the advance on Maringue, the first battle took place 8 kilometers from the administrative center of the Sena District, with the Mozambique Armed Forces destroying an enemy encampment and killing six bandits. Horacio Sande says that based on clues picked up in the field, it can be presumed that the number of enemy casualties was higher than the number of bodies hastily abandoned in the field would indicate.

Horacio Sande continued: "In the Jone zone, we came across another enemy force and destroyed its encampment." Fifteen armed bandits were found dead on the battlefield, and a 60-mm mortar was captured.

During their advance, the Mozambique Armed Forces fought other battles in the Macoco and Nhassapa zones where, in addition to destroying the encampments there, they killed six enemy fighters and captured weapons and ammunition.

Horacio Sande adds that at that point, the FAM-FPLM contingent received orders to return to its base area and then advance on Nhangalele. There the Mozambique Armed Forces divided into two groups. One group advanced along the road, and the other went through the Chicuma zone. In both places--Chicuma and Nhangalele--the army attacked and destroyed enemy encampments.

The officer said: "Our objective was Maringue, whose administrative center--according to information we had received--had been occupied by the enemy. We therefore advanced from Nhangalele to Maringue in a pincer movement so as not to let the enemy escape."

Maringue Destroyed

Statements gathered by the DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE from political-military authorities in Maringue indicate that the district administrative center had been occupied on 5 September 1983, when our forces decided, because of insufficient manpower, to withdraw to Sena with the inhabitants.

During the few days that the armed bandits remained, they destroyed Maringue. When the team of reporters from the DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE reached the locality, it was greeted by a Dantesque scene: schools, stores, the health center, the party headquarters, and the residence of the district administrator had been completely destroyed and plundered. In their destructive fury, the armed bandits did not spare the communal village, where all the houses were burned and the power poles were knocked over and chopped up.

In the walls of the buildings, we saw holes caused by the bandits' bullets, and the front tires of a tractor had been cut off. Presumably, the rubber was used to make shoes for the bandits.

"The village was completely destroyed and plundered, and the bandits carried off all the property belonging to the inhabitants," emphasized Tiago Lambique, political commissioner for the local forces in Maringue. And with a broad gesture, he pointed to what had been the villagers' homes. He told us: "Maringue was destroyed with dynamite. I don't know how many kilograms they used in this murderous work."

Pressed by reporters to reveal details of the military operations carried out by the Mozambican Army to expel the enemy from Maringue, Tiago Lambique mentioned the battles in Nhawando, Chicuma, Gumbalacai, Nhangalele, and Nhavato. In all those instances, the outcome was favorable to the FAM-FPLM and made possible the capture of miscellaneous military equipment and the physical liquidation of dozens of bandits.

Rebuilding in Maringue

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 29 Dec 83 p 16

[Article by Antonio Sefane]

[Text] Now that the enemy has been driven out of the district administrative center, life is gradually improving for the inhabitants of Maringue. A vast program is currently underway to reorganize the villagers along collective lines and restore the health, educational, and commercial networks. Machetes in hand, the peasants are putting up their huts in the former communal village. It is confidence in the future that will be

built under the national flag which gives the villagers the strength to "start over" and rebuild their lives.

Samuel Marcelino Somane, district administrator of Maringue, told us: "The situation is improving. With every day that passes, many people--sometimes entire families--come to report in to our forces and to the party and government structures."

For his part, Tiago Lambique, political commissioner for the local forces in that district, commented: "When the armed bandits came here, their intention was not to attack our soldiers. Their intention was to attack the inhabitants. That was why they fired mortar shells at the village from a distance, because--they were saying to the peasants--you are supporting FRELIMO and you must pay."

Trenches in Houses

The political commissioner for the local forces paused a moment to recall the times of hardship suffered by the inhabitants. He told us that the bandits would attack Maringue in groups of 20, 30, and even 50 men. But they always had the inhabitants in their gunsights. He said: "There were times when they came in groups of 150. To keep the attacks from causing so much injury to the population, we organized trenches inside the houses. That way, when there was an attack, everyone knew where to take shelter from the murderous bullets fired by the bandits."

Economy Harmed

The Maringue District was established in June 1980 as part of the administrative reorganization of Sofala Province that was started by Maj Gen Mariano Matsinhe, who was resident minister at the time. The district comprises five villages whose inhabitants, most of them peasants, engage primarily in agriculture.

In that connection, the administrator of Maringue told us that in addition to growing corn, "mapira," "machueira," and sweet potatoes, the district had been the largest cotton producer: in the 1980-1981 crop year, the family sector produced about 2,000 tons of that strategic export crop.

And from Maringue's sawmills came valuable first-quality wood that was shipped by rail to Beira for export or for use in furniture manufacturing. The district administrator said: "We still have a tourist center and the fluorite mines. But all those activities were harmed by the armed bandits." He added:

"When the inhabitants were producing freely, Maringue never had food problems. There were even times when the stores had no customers for rice and cornmeal because the inhabitants had food at home.

"Even the fluorite mines, which had stopped operating, were being reactivated by us in 1979. But we had to stop that work. There were already Bulgarian and Hungarian experts involved in the work."

Hope Renewed

The effect of the difficult period experienced by the population in the forest is still visible. War leaves its marks. The uncertain future in the forest under the control of armed bandits who beat, tortured, and killed has left its mark on many people. They are "psychologically wounded," and it will take time for them to heal. But among the inhabitants who have returned, we did not see any sign of discouragement. On the contrary, they are talking about building permanent huts because the present ones are temporary and about working their farms, where the rain will cause the corn, mapira, sweet potatoes, and machueira to germinate.

Avelino Candeeiro, a merchant whose stores in Subue and Maringue were destroyed by the armed bandits, told us he already had another store where he would continue to sell loincloth, beer, shirts, blouses, and other essential items.

With a touch of sadness, he told the reporter about his goods that had been stolen by the armed bandits: "In Subue, the bandits destroyed my store and stole all the merchandise. In Maringue, they not only destroyed my store completely, but also burned my tractor and my flourmill."

He said: "How much did I lose? Well, in Subue I lost 60 contos worth of merchandise, and in Maringue the bandits stole 40,000 meticals in currency."

He is not thinking of giving up: "When they burned my store in Subue, the administrator told me that I had two hands and could start over. And that is what I am doing. In my present store, although it is small in comparison with the old one, I already have cloth to sell. And they told me I would be getting more cloth and other merchandise. Why give up?"

Grudja Encampment Dismantled

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 30 Dec 83 p 16

[Article by Antonio Sefane]

[Text] The major military operations launched in Nhamatanda in Sofala Province last April resulted in the destruction of innumerable encampments and the physical liquidation of dozens of armed bandits, as well as the liberation of hundreds of Mozambican citizens who until then had been in the enemy's hands. According to what the DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE was told by Lt Col Zacarias Tivane, political commissioner of the Sofala Provincial Military Command, the bandits are now dispersed and have been operating only in small groups since their defeat in Grudja, considered to be the bandits' main encampment in that region.

He emphasized: "From the military standpoint, the situation is normal throughout the Nhamatanda District as far as the Buzi River, and the Mozambique Armed Forces are working side by side with local party and government structures to organize the inhabitants along collective lines."

Forward Post

A team of national reporters recently visited the zones formerly affected by armed banditry in Nhamatanda--specifically Mecuse, Chibuto Comercial, and the 3 February communal village on the right bank of the Revue River. Zacarias Tivane greeted the special correspondents from the DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE, NOTICIAS, Radio Mozambique, TEMPO, and KUXA KANEMA at the forward command post in Nhamatanda. Carefully tended field tents and huts were spread out over a radius of dozens of meters under leafy trees.

The political commissioner of the Sofala Provincial Military Command spread a military map on the ground and pointed to the bandit encampments destroyed by the Mozambican Army in the villages of Grudja, Matondo, and Machanga. Zacarias Tivane said: "We had to do a lot of work, and our armed forces conducted themselves heroically in pursuing and killing the enemy. After some of the battles, we found from 9 to 12 corpses abandoned in the field."

Zacarias Tivane explained, however, that since the bandits usually carry away the bodies of those killed by our troops, there is reason to believe that the number of enemy casualties is greater than that.

South Africans and Israelis

In the opinion of the political commissioner of the Sofala Provincial Military Command, the armed bandits survive thanks to the human and material resources made available to them by the South African racists. He said: "The bandits have no support among the people. When they come to a village or locality, they rob, kill, and steal the property of the inhabitants. And they force people to go with them to their encampments for two purposes: first, to carry the items they have stolen from the inhabitants by force of arms, and second, to serve as their shields during our offensives."

On the specific subject of the logistic and military support given to the bandits by Pretoria, Zacarias Tivane told us that aircraft have been seen flying over this region in the direction of Gorongosa, where they drop various weapons and other materiel by parachute. The regime of apartheid uses the same method for the infiltration of national territory, and especially this region, by the South African military.

He continued: "In addition, we have noted active participation by Israelis in leading the bandits militarily. How? Thanks to documents we have captured during the fighting and because of the dead bodies hastily abandoned on the battlefield."

Political Work

According to that senior officer in the FAM-FPLM, the mission of young Mozambican soldiers on the battlefronts involves more than simply fighting the enemy physically. He said that our armed forces also engage in political work among the returning inhabitants by explaining the causes and objectives of armed banditry to them. They also participate directly in rebuilding the economic and social infrastructures destroyed by Pretoria's proteges.

After mentioning the construction of a bridge over the Buzi River as an example, Zacarias Tivane drew attention to the massive return by the inhabitants to their former communal villages as a result of the political work done by the young soldiers. This was confirmed by Luis Isaia Tivane, secretary of the Mecuse Circle Committee, who said: "These are people who were in the forest and who are now returning. The biggest problem facing them is hunger and the lack of clothing, although we have been receiving some from the provincial organizations. As you know, life in the forest is tough. The bandits take all the food and clothing away from people. We have been doing some work to alleviate those problems.

"For people who returned quite some time ago, the problem is the lack of seed. We have large areas of land that have been tilled for planting corn and other crops, but we have no seed. And by now we should already be planting crops.

Atrocities

At the request of the reporters, Luis Isaia Tivane stepped back a little in time to talk about the atrocities committed by the bandits in April, when Mecuse was plundered. He told us: "The bandits began to fire their weapons when they arrived here. They used machetes to murder the secretary of the circle committee and other people and then started for my house. They didn't find me because I had fled. They asked my wife where I was, and she said I had gone to the town of Nhamatanda to buy some things. They went away, but came back two more times. My wife always gave them the same answer.

"Before that, they (the bandits) had burned everything and kidnaped a few people, especially young people from this circle. One woman refused to satisfy their sexual appetites, so the bandits burned her genitals."

The statements by that party official were later confirmed by other people we contacted. For example, Chara Mongete reported seeing them burn a relative's houses even though the relative had acquiesced promptly when they told him to accompany them. They are not people. "They don't act like normal people. They are animals. It even seems to me that they are drugged. I don't believe that a normal person would consent to do what they do."

In 3 February Communal Village

Impressive work has been done in just a few months by the Mozambique Armed Forces and the local party and government structures in supervising and organizing the returning inhabitants. Luis Isaia Tivane says: "When people come back, the first thing we do is make it possible for each person to have his own house. And then we give him land for crops. And so the person begins to organize his life.

"You ask if there have not been problems? There have to be problems. Especially for children and old people. For young people, the problems are not so great because they can begin all over again. But for old people, starting over from scratch is always difficult. But with support from our soldiers, we manage to solve all the problems that face us from day to day."

While the effort to support returning inhabitants is observable in all the localities we visited, the reality of that support is more palpable in the 3 February communal village, where the bridge crosses the Revue River.

When our news team arrived in that rural community, it was impressed by the degree of organization and neatness displayed by the local inhabitants. According to what we were told, all the basic structures--party and democratic mass organizations--have already been established in the 3 February communal village, and this makes it possible quickly to solve the problems faced by the inhabitants.

Also already in operation are three schools in which the children of the villagers study. Alberto Matevele, a peasant who resides in that communal village, said: "We want you to tell those people in Beira who fled from here that they can come back to Revue--that nothing is going on here anymore."

11798

CSO: 3442/242

FIRST ZIMBABWE CARGO TRAIN UNLOADS IN BEIRA

MB260846 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Representatives from the Zimbabwe national railways and a shipping and clearing firm this week visited the central Mozambique port of Beira to monitor the loading of cargo from the first container from Harare. The train, which is the first to carry cargo in containers from Zimbabwe to the harbor, was loaded with tobacco when it arrived in Beira in a record time of 2 1/2 days with no hitches en route. The train's cargo was loaded onto the Lonrho vessel which is to carry it to Europe.

The assistant general manager of Zimbabwe railways, Mr (Rex Chiware), said everything had been cleared with the minimum delay, and they are satisfied with the efficiency of Beira in handling containers. He called on more Zimbabwean businessmen to make use of the port of Beira, which he said is cheaper and quicker than other export routes.

The managing director of Rennies shipping and air freight, Mr (Brian Alan), announced that a second container train has already arrived in Beira and the third is expected to leave Harare before the end of this month.

Late last year the South African transport and communications commission held a meeting in Maputo at which the railway lines linking the port of Beira and Nacala with other Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] members were discussed. Both Mozambique and Zimbabwe are members of the SADCC.

CSO: 3400/588

BRIEFS

SOFALA DISTRICT OFFICIALS REMOVED--(Francisco Sumaili), the first district party secretary and district commissioner of Marroneu, and (Shufa Musa), the military commander of the same district, have been relieved of their positions, according to a communique from the office of the leader of Sofala Province. According to the communique, the political and moral behavior of the two individuals is incompatible with our socialist society. The communique points out that the secretariat of the Frelimo Party provincial committee and the provincial government of Sofala met recently in extraordinary sessions to examine and discuss in depth the political, social and economic situation of Marroneu District following the receipt of a document with information on the district. Previously, a party and state commission had been sent to the district to conduct an on-the-spot examination of the issues referred to in the document. According to the communique, the district's situation was characterized by a lack of discipline and the violation of the party and state guiding principles by those district officials. [Text] [MB281150 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 28 Jan 84]

TETE OFFICIAL ADDRESSES ARMY--Francisco Joao Pateguana, deputy minister of agriculture and acting government of Tete Province, today emphasized the need for the Mozambique armed forces to ensure tranquillity and peace among the people. At a meeting with officers of the Mozambique armed forces stationed in Tete, the deputy minister stressed the need for the armed forces to be involved in the efforts to combat famine, as was decided on at the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress. He also stressed the need to strengthen the link between the armed forces and the people. [Text] [MB201856 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 20 Jan 84]

ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR VISITS GAZA--Colonel Aurelio Manave, the governor of Gaza, received in Xai-Xai yesterday the Zairian ambassador to our country. The Zairian diplomat said his visit to Gaza Province is aimed at familiarizing him with the drought situation and studying the assistance to be rendered to our country by the Republic of Zaire to ease the effects of this natural disaster. At the meeting, Governor Manave briefed the Zairian ambassador on the drought situation, particularly in the districts of Massingir, Chicualacuala, Guija, Manjacaze, and Chibuto. [Text] [MB251337 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Jan 84]

RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT

No Disagreement With PW

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 30 Nov 83 p 31

[Text] Newspaper with conjecture about a possible court case between the Namibian White Administration and the South African government are malicious, says Mr Kosie Pretorius, leader of the National Party [NP] of Namibia.

Mr Pretorius was approached for comment as a result of newspaper reports that his party had sought legal opinion on the recession of certain powers of the White Legislative Assembly. According to these reports, it would lead to a court action between the assembly and the government.

No Complaint

He does not foresee a suit because there "is no complaint", Mr Pretorius stated. "We sought legal opinion in order to reassure ourselves that our standpoints are correct, not in preparation for court action. Newspapers in South Africa which report that are malicious."

In response to the question whether he foresees a curtailment in the future of the Legislative Assembly's rights by the government, Mr Pretorius stated that legal opinion was only sought on the "concept of the right of self-determination of peoples".

The Executive Committee, Mr Pretorius said, adopted a decision on 10 February to seek legal opinion, among other things on the right of self-determination of peoples as it is meant to be carried out under the conditions of the original mandate, the South African government's position as stated in the publication South West Africa Survey of 1967, the UN Charter and the current opinions of the international community on the pattern of multinational society.

No Disagreement

His standpoint is that the powers of the Legislative Assembly may not be diminished without consulting the assembly, Mr Pretorius said.

There is no disagreement between him and the government, and he strongly rejects attempts to connect a threat to the NP's attempts.

In response to a question about relations between the Namibian NP and the government, Mr Pretorius said: "Relations between us and the government, the Conservative Party and the Reconstituted National Party were still very good. I feel obligated to cooperate with the current government to obtain something for my people. I can do nothing else. That does not mean that I agree with everything they do," Mr Pretorius ~~stated~~ stated.

Cartoon on Botha Trip

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 30 Nov 83 p 6

[Cartoon by Dirty Gene Trajers. // in boldface]

[Caption lower right] Brand-new plans for Namibia may be among the documents which Mr /Pik Botha/ will present in Bonn on his European trip...

[Balloon] I just hope the Namibians /appreciate/ everything that /I/ am doing for them!!

[Tag on present] Another /big/ present to Namibia... from Pik.



12571
 CSO: 3401/35

COMMENTARY ON MULTI-PARTY CONFERENCE

Proper Beginning

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 18 Nov 83 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] As was made abundantly clear by the declaration handed out by the Multi-Party Conference's press liaison officer, Dr Lukas de Vries, the conference started out its debate with the right point.

The Conference did not start talking about a group of mirages or dreams, nor did they start with a number of conditions or preconceived notions.

The Conference started with the most vital problem of the moment, and that is the instability of the present political system.

By the very nature of the system, there are, among others, two very important elements.

One is the international initiatives/alternatives which are more or less in vogue. The other is the internal political situation, which boils down to the fact that Namibians have nothing to say about their own fate.

That Resolution 435 of the United Nations Security Council requires special consideration is more than obvious. That this complex matter must be thoroughly discussed and studied is just as obvious. This cannot be done by simply taking the matter up on the floor of the conference. The conference wisely decided to appoint a committee to conduct an in-depth investigation and to report to the conference on it.

From this point of departure, they can proceed with relevant matters without getting bogged down in trivialities.

Resolution 435

[Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 22 Nov 83 p 4]

[Editorial]

[Text] It would be irresponsible for the Multi-Party Conference to sacrifice its critical attitude for some kind of popularity or another.

It has been refreshing to hear how receptive and open-minded the Multi-Party Conference politicians have been thus far in considering the problems confronting the country.

One of the subjects which is being studied very thoroughly is Resolution 435. That could not be otherwise, since this United Nations Security Council resolution cannot simply be ignored.

This does not mean that Resolution 435 is a finality which cannot be improved or replaced by something better.

It is not the fault of Namibia that this resolution had not yet been carried out.

The Namibians have looked forward to the independence of their country with great expectations and they were willing to cooperate with Western powers and the UN in all regards.

But this was not enough! The big problem was that the UN was not fair; it sabotaged its own plan, at the expense of the people of Namibia.

Consequently, it is only logical that the Namibians are now going to work out their own future. Even if they accept the idea that Resolution 435 is the only meaningful way to complete independence, it definitely is their right to determine the conditions under which they believe that that resolution can be implemented.

The time has passed for good that solutions can simply be forced down the throats of Namibians. If it were really a case of genuine solutions, it would not be necessary to force it. But no one likes to swallow experimental medicines merely for the sake of the experiment.

The Multi-Party Conference will show the greatest loyalty to Namibia by not skipping or avoiding anything. It must remain critical to the end of things it is to advise about. Only an attitude of "we have the right to consider things critically" will lead to defensible solutions.

And if the Multi-Party Conference can point to proper procedures and truth, it will be able to make its case to the whole world, if necessary.

Integrity is a powerful weapon. Especially since we must survive in a world of moves and countermoves.

New Hope in Namibians' Politics?

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 1 Dec 83 p 25

[Column]

[Excerpt] Besides the wonderful nation-wide rains, the best tidbits of political news come from Namibia.

There the Multi-Party Conference, which has started meeting at its own initiative, has already shown early signs of a common desire to overcome our neighboring country's serious political problems.

/Is the spirit of the Turnhalle, which once gave Namibia so much hope, going to be revived?/

Main Figures

Informed persons think that, although it will be difficult, it is not entirely impossible.

Some of the main figures in the Turnhalle, such as Mr Dirk Mudge and his people, are participating in the new conference in Windhoek.

The National Party, majority party among Namibian whites, is also active at the conference; its principal delegate is another Turnhalle veteran, the lawyer Eben van Zijl, who had been out of active politics for longer than two years.

There is also the Rehoboth Liberation Party (Mr Hans Diergaardt). Plus a couple of parties which were not in the Turnhalle, such as the Damara Council (Mr Justus Garoeb), Swapo Democrats (Mr Andreas Shipanga) and Swanu (Mr Moses Katjiuogua).

/They all were no great friends in the past; now it appears that a spirit of reconciliation has arisen among them in order to achieve a consensus on the future of Namibia./

That new spirit is a very welcome development.

Especially since it has seemed for so long that the Namibians enjoy fighting among themselves nearly as much as against their common enemy, communist-oriented Swapo.

Observers close to the Multi-Party Conference believe that a greater degree of level-headedness has entered Namibia's politics.

Almost something similar to South Africa's referendum, when people finally had to confront alternatives to the National Party plan head-on. And ask themselves--even if they do not support the new constitution in all regards --whether they intend to leave the country at the mercy of Mrs Suzman and Dr Treurnicht/

/In just the same way, the Namibians now must ask themselves more urgently than ever before whether they intend to leave that marvelous, wide country at the mercy of Sam Nujoma, his Kremlin bosses and his terrorists./

Stagnation

The original plan of the Administrator-general, Dr Willie van Niekerk, for a council of state for Namibia can be replaced by the Multi-Party Conference, if the discussions are successful. The Multi-Party Conference can create the basis for a provisional government which can take over the reins in Namibia to a great extent.

In this manner, the political stagnation can be ended, after threatening to undo all the impressive military successes.

A common front of the democratic parties is the best way to beat terrorism and communism in Namibia--and to stop the balance of power in southern Africa from swinging toward the powers of chaos and violence.

/Especially now that some western countries are starting to become weak-kneed about the Cubans in Angola./

12571

CSO: 3401/35

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH BOTSWANA--Namibia and Botswana are going to cooperate in order to protect wildlife better in eastern Caprivi and northern Botswana and to capture ivory smugglers. This good news follows a sudden meeting this week between top conservationists from both areas. A plan of action was discussed in Gaborone. This meeting is considered a breakthrough. Cooperation had not been successful in the past. Incidents on the Botswana border had confused matters. Proposals. Arrangements for the meeting were made by the Southern African Soil and Nature Conservation Committee. Mr Allan Britgens of Pretoria, head secretary of the conservation group, presided over the meeting in Botswana. The three men from Namibia were led by Mr Polla Swart, director of conservation. Accompanying him were Mr Stoffel Rocher, assistant director in charge of law enforcement, and Mr Daantjie Grobbelaar, in command of conservation in eastern Caprivi. Mr Swart told RAPPORT that proposals concerning illegal hunting and smuggling would be submitted to the governments of the various regions. In Namibia the security-force will also be consulted on the coordinated attempt.

[Text] [Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 4 Dec 83 p 2] 12571

CSO: 3401/35

RADIO COMMENTARY ON VALUE OF U.S. SUPPORT

MB230703 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] South Africans are warned every so often not to mistake the U.S. policy of constructive engagement for approval of the status quo in this country or its relations with its neighbors. The warnings would make sense if, in fact, there were widespread misapprehensions on that score. That is not the case, however; and in any event, most South Africans themselves are not only aware of shortcomings, but have repeatedly demonstrated their support for the reforms that are being made. In those circumstances, the warnings merely obscure the extent to which the undoubted changes in American policy under President Reagan may facilitate the process, both in domestic affairs and regional relations.

Especially misleading is the claim, made by some of the speakers at an American-South African conference in Pietersmaritzburg last week, that there has been no real change since the Carter administration. The goals remain Southern African stability, greater social justice in South Africa, and a South-West African settlement. That may be true, but it has never been at issue. The disputes of the past concerned assumptions and actions that, far from promoting those ends, frustrated them. They concerned the definition of conflict in Southern Africa as essentially a black-white struggle, and of the Cuban presence in Angola as a stabilizing force, and the belief that the goals could, and should, be achieved through confrontation with South Africa.

That has changed profoundly. A starting point was acknowledgment of the complexity of South Africa's race politics--its awesome challenges, in Dr Chester Crocker's phrase. In that situation, President Reagan said in his first policy statement on the subject the United States should be helpful rather than obstructionist, in respect of the reforms that were in progress inside the country. The stand was part of a broader strategy for South Africa, establishing a stable, cooperative order based on the need to protect American strategic interests in a region that was under threat from Soviet expansionism.

The outcome has been constructive engagement, a policy that, Professor (Gerrit Olivier) has pointed out, has made it much easier for Mr P.W. Botha to carry out his reform policies in a generally hostile world. The most dramatic results have been in the effect on regional security. On South-West Africa, the linkage of a settlement with the withdrawal of Cuban troops was both a concession to South Africa's national security needs and an acknowledgment by the United States that its own wider interests required the removal of a Soviet-directed military force from the region.

Rejection of cross-border terrorism has been even more emphatic. In international diplomacy, the United States has firmly opposed radical isolationist moves; and in trade, there has been some relaxation of restraints on exports.

South Africa must resolve its own complex problems in a manner acceptable to its own people. Indeed, it insists on its right to do so. In that endeavor, the sympathetic support of the leading power in the West is a substantial plus factor which it would be foolish to discount.

CSO: 3400/589

'TOTAL ONSLAUGHT' CAMPAIGN OF SOVIET 'DIS-INFORMATION' DESCRIBED

Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Dec 83/Jan 84 pp 9-10

[Article: "Total Onslaught!"]

[Text]

- **What is it?**
- **It has no parameters**
- **It is largely based on the dis-information campaign**
- **It is designed to gather support**

It is not easy to describe the Soviet KGB orchestrated attack against South Africa as so many techniques are employed to achieve their desired results. The attack has reached such a scale that many are cowed into supporting aspects of the programme through fear of being labelled by their supporting lobby. This lobby is able to actually obtain support for organisations such as the African national Congress (ANC) even though in certain instances it operates under a very flimsy cover. The overall application of the attack is poorly understood, perhaps the term 'Total Onslaught' is too direct and conjures up ideas of military might, instead of an insidious approach designed to weaken independent action through fears, such as being out of step with popular thought. The 'popular thought' being a creation of KGB.

The cornerstone of the Total Onslaught against South Africa is Soviet KGB's campaign of Dis-information. The all embracing term of Total Onslaught is not definite enough to explain what is actually taking place and without specific examples of how the International Section of the KGB implements its tactical decisions it would be unrealistic to expect the average citizen to appreciate the scope of this campaign of subversion. This campaign of dis-information is one of two attacks being mounted against the Republic, the other is the steady build-up of military equipment in the Sub-Saharan States from Soviet sources that is creating the conventional military threat.

Generally it is the least innocuous of these campaigns that receives attention, the so-called Sports Boycott, and this is due to the extensive media coverage that is accorded to any real or imagined development that takes place in this field. This area of action has no chance of doing damage to the State in the Military, Economic, Political or Spiritual spheres and if countered in an adult manner can do little damage in the Psychological sphere. However, at this stage it is the only Soviet action based on their programme of dis-information that is exposed and in part understood and while in practical terms it is of no value it does reveal the Machievellian machinations of a KGB orchestrated operation. The multitude of 'paper' organisations with limited membership drawn from a small group of communists or fellow travellers that form the basis for their protests is very well illustrated by organisations connected with the Sport Boycott movement. But this is one of the overt methods used and although it thrives on Dis-information it is accepted in many quarters and at governmental level as the course to follow when dealing with South Africa. The fact that the controllers and orchestration come from the far left does not appear to be taken into consideration. In this instance the tactics developed by Paul Joseph Goebbels, those of repetition seem to apply and the way is made easier by the fact that the vested interests involved in this area are few.

A classic example of a Soviet Dis-information campaign was reported in Armed Forces (July 83) when in an attempt to embarrass the United States Administration; the KGB circulated a number of forged letters trying to indicate that Washington was involved in selling aircraft to the Republic and had a finger in the Seychelles fiasco. In this instance Lieutenant General Mike Muller of the South African Air Force was chosen to be the obvious victim, while in actual fact the real target was the United States Administration. Copies of the forged letters were carefully fed into the international media net, at more than one point, and then the KGB only had to wait for the roars of indignation that did erupt from around the world. Some weeks ago, a few weeks before the news broke of the shipment via South African ports of US computers to the Soviet Union by way of Sweden, wire services carried a report that South Africa was involved in the installation of Cruise Missiles. It is conceivable that this was again a case of a 'smokescreen' being laid in connection with the computer transaction!

The parameters of the Total Onslaught are so wide, that it is easy for anyone attempting counter action to fall into the trap of being accused of being party to the 'Red under every bed' syndrome. Take the case of someone who has some gray areas in his past and now is in the position to be a 'sanctions buster' and of great value to a government. If he is continually subjected to a campaign of character assassination based on what he is, supposedly, reported to have done in the past. Can he be a victim of an aspect of the Total Onslaught. It is a question of giving a dog a bad name for even if on closer investigation most of the allegations are either found to be false or based on a very flimsy foundation, the bad reputation stays, and could well result in the termination of his present activities. He becomes an incidental victim in another victory in the Total Onslaught. While the dirt diggers carry on happy in the 'knowledge of what could be called another successful 'expose', perhaps without the knowledge that they were simply a sharp tool used in the hands of others. To a casual observer the procedures employed by the International Section of KGB are obscured with the real target being hidden behind the ob-

vicious and in South Africa success is achieved by the total lack of understanding that exists in many levels. Perhaps the term Total Onslaught has come to be accepted as just another parrot cry and disregarded.

Much of this attitude falls into the short term policy category, it is easier for business to kneel to outside pressures, no decision need to be taken other than the application of the old policy of appeasement. A good case in point here is an international organisation that generates over 70% of its profit from South Africa that is prepared to instantly buckle to pressure from the 'paper' organisations. Their once profitable other African operations are fast becoming a liability but in this respect they appear to be blinded and not able to accept reality. In recent years there have been a number of parallels, the Marxist take-over in Mozambique was at first supported by business that quickly turned socialist in the hope that this volte-face would curry favour with the new regime to enable them to continue their capitalist operations. Their complete lack of sense of reality gave them a few months grace but often resulted in a slowing down in their siphoning off of their assets. So their loss was in fact even greater.

While recent spy trials, traitor trials that have taken place in the Republic and the computer story may have resulted in a better grasp of the situation the desired minimum degree of understanding is still absent. At the same time the African National Congress (ANC) has been receiving an increasing amount of exposure from the media. Coupled to this have been allegations of atrocities committed by members of the security forces against the population in South West Africa. As the evidence against the security force members has been presented in court it has tended to obscure South West Peoples Organisation (SWAPO) atrocities that are constantly being committed against the civil population with such a degree of frequency that they have almost become a way of life.

While these many instances of atrocities by SWAPO members have been documented they have never been brought before a court and thereby lack the indisputable credibility given by the findings of independent court. The SWAPO propaganda organisation and its affiliates both inside and outside will be able to make maximum use of the evidence led in the Windhoek Trial* to blacken the name of ALL elements of the security forces.

One of the major difficulties in countering the KGB mounted campaign is that counter-propagandists immediately lay themselves open to attack from the left with such allegations such as "A Red under every Bed". In fact the provoking of this type of reaction is one of the tactics of the left and is part of the campaign of subversion. This anticipated reaction by the powerful forces that the Soviets are able to muster restrains counter action, and is all the more formidable because of the amount of support that they are, at first glance, able to claim. The numerous support organisations, and their opinions although minute in membership, always appear to be good for extensive media coverage.

There is little doubt that unknowing and indirect support for ANC is being generated inside the Republic because many are unable to comprehend just how the Total Onslaught is being implemented. This lack of understanding is becoming evident

in the senior ranks of our commercial undertaking where support for a venture may unwittingly be support for the ANC.

It is not a better understanding that is needed, but rather, just some understanding of the application of the actions are being implemented by the KGB and that this campaign has no known parameters.

**During the period of this trial Swapo bayoneted a civilian to death in the Operational Area an event that was ignored by the press.*

CSO: 3400/573

PAPER URGES POLITICAL SOLUTION TO NAMIBIA ISSUE

MB211220 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 18 Jan 84 p 10

["From My Political Pen" column by "Dawie": "Political Solution Now Vital"]

[Text] The South African Defense Force has once again distinguished itself in Angola. It seems that in a certain sense its achievement this time was even greater than in the past, because this time the South Africans were up against a superior force. That the South Africans were able to repulse the attack so successfully speaks volumes for their skill and bravery. South Africa can be very proud of them. And grateful.

Unfortunately, too many people have grown overly accustomed to their troops acquitting themselves so well. To them, it has become something to be expected. They believe that it should be so, that it could not be otherwise, that the South Africans must necessarily return from the battlefield with flying colors every time. This detracts from the appreciation their achievements so greatly deserve.

There is another way, and it calls for consideration.

"Operation Askari" was the most recent in a series of operations into Angola, which are becoming more drawn out. Time and again the defense force has mounted expeditions against SWAPO bases, and each time they have hit the terrorists hard. But sooner or later it becomes necessary to go after them again.

Inevitably this has caused a good number of people--and it seems their numbers are growing--to ask the question: How much longer? For how long will our sons have to go and clean up things in Angola? How long can we keep this up?

This has led to the unthinkable of a while ago being held up as a possibility: That South Africa ought to pull out of South-West Africa. And it is not only the hostile-minded who think that way.

The South-West African situation has brought South Africa up against a crucial fact of which all thinking people have been aware all along, but which has become more valid. That is, there is a solution to this type of situation other

than the military one. Military action is indispensable, but only to lay the foundation for a political solution. As long as this is excluded, even the most outstanding military successes cannot have any lasting value.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon has provided a telling example of this. Militarily, Israel could not have fared better; its army did all that could have been expected of it, and more. But that was not enough to ensure the realization of Israeli aims. The political finishing touches were left out, and the invasion of Lebanon has brought many problems for Israel, perhaps even more than it solved.

Problems of an internal nature, too, because in contrast with the other wars the Israelis have waged, the one in Lebanon has divided rather than united the Israeli nation. And today in Israel, even in the highest military circles, there is increasing pressure for a total withdrawal from Lebanon.

No matter what our soldiers achieve, they alone cannot put an end to the lingering question of South-West Africa.

Let us examine the reasons for the invasion of Angola. First, it was meant to make it more difficult for SWAPO to undertake its campaigns of murder and devastation in South-West Africa.

Second, it was meant to weaken SWAPO's political power. It is obvious that the SWAPO which can arouse a strong military impression--even though the 'military' capability is used in such a shameful manner--would be the SWAPO which would fare that much better at the ballot box.

But the weakening of SWAPO's political influence by military action is not enough to ensure that SWAPO not achieve political success if and when matters in South-West Africa are decided through the ballot one day. For this reason, a powerful political alternative to SWAPO is needed in South-West Africa.

Such an alternative has up to now been missing due to the lingering political disunity in the territory. Numerous attempts have been made to overcome this, eventually culminating in the holding of a multiparty conference.

In the 2 weeks of negotiations by the participants at the end of last year, there was promising progress--to the considerable annoyance of SWAPO and its collaborators. This should now be taken further. The conference is being resumed today, a few days after the end of "Operation Askari."

It is now incumbent of the participants at the conference to place the political crown on the achievement of the defense force. The defense force has given them time. And the time is valuable, having been paid for dearly.

That time must now be used, quickly and effectively. It cannot be accepted that the defense force will continue to buy time. After all, the ongoing battle cannot be won in Angola; it must be won in South-West Africa, and the first victory must be gained at the multiparty conference.

COMMENT ON NAMIBIAN MULTIPARTY CONFERENCE

Laudable Example

[Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 23 Nov 83 p 6]

[Editorial]

[Text] The Multi-Party Conference [MPC] of Namibia started last week when delegates of seven political parties assembled in Windhoek. The goal of this conference is apparently to try to create some order in the political chaos prevailing in that area.

There is no reason for anyone to doubt that the MPC will make purposeful attempts to establish an interim government that can serve as a counter-balance to Swapo in some future one-man, one-vote election.

The present conference is nothing less than a successor to past Turnhalle discussions, the constitutional convention and the national convention, all three of which failed. Consequently it can safely be predicted that this attempt is also doomed to failure.

The reason for this was already clear at the first session of the conference, when leaders of the two black political parties demanded that imprisoned Swapo leaders be freed. Of course, this demand was made to promote the credibility of the leaders concerned among the black populace and is probably only the first in a whole series of such demands.

White political parties participating in the conference will have to ask themselves whether they are willing to comply with such demands. If they are prepared to do so, they will have to accept a big loss of white support at the same time. Certainly no white political party will be willing to commit suicide in such a calculated way, which only points out the futility of such conferences.

HNP Serves White Interests

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 23 Nov 83 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] What is especially significant is the participation of the Namibian National Party [NP] in the performance. This party boasts that it is willing to join in any dialogue with other groups as long as minority rights

are not adversely affected by it and no decisions binding for minorities are made. However, that is exactly where the conference is headed if it reaches its goal. Otherwise it would have no reason for being. The only function which the conference can fulfil is to serve as basis for a new multi-racial order in Namibia.

Bearing these facts in mind as well as the NP's tactics of claiming to be a "conservative" party, it is especially significant that the party is participating in the discussions. Furthermore, a prominent member of the NP's left wing was especially dispatched to the conference.

The reasons for this action is probably founded in the pragmatic policy which the party is following. Whenever it notices a conservative upswing in Namibia or South Africa, it makes clear conservative noises and even tries to create the impression that there is tension between the party and the government. Nevertheless, when in the NP's judgment the conservative danger diminishes, such as now, following the referendum results, it sets its sails to the liberal breeze. No other explanation for the present actions of the NP would be credible.

Weathervane politics of this kind are especially dangerous, because it can only mean swimming with the current of Namibian politics. And this current leads inevitably to a one-man, one-vote election under UN supervision and then the abyss of a Swapo regime.

Mr Kosie Pretorius and his party's recent action prove once again that the Reconstituted National Party [RNP] is the only true representative of the interests of Namibia's whites. The RNP declared from the very beginning that it wanted no part of this exercise in multiraciality and thus provided a laudable example to all other white parties.

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CSO: 3401/35

NP CONFIDENT OF WINNING SOUTPANSBERG ELECTIONS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 4

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text]

THE election organisations of the NP, CP and HNP are in full swing for the Soutpansberg Parliamentary and Provincial by-elections on February 15.

Transvaal NP spokesmen yesterday told The Citizen the NP was confident of a victory in both the Parliamentary and Provincial seats, "providing the supporters — who are apparently election-weary after a somewhat fierce 'battle of the Berge' and referendum campaigning last year — don't stay away from the polls."

The spokesman said the NP has a tough battle ahead of it in order to beat off the HNP from the far right and to defeat the CP. But they believe a straight majority over both is not excluded.

Onslaught

A CP spokesman expressed similar views saying the CP has to fight off the HNP onslaught whilst it also has to draw supporters from the NP.

The CP believes it could win Soutpansberg, providing it gets enough support from NP ranks.

An HNP spokesman at Louis Trichardt yesterday

said he did not expect the HNP to win either of the two by-elections, but that his party hopes to prove that they have not lost their former stabilised support in this constituency specifically, and for that reason also in the rest of the Transvaal platteland.

Informed NP sources said the Transvaal NP is approaching the Soutpansberg by-elections in a determined manner and its organisation was therefore set on a fixed and well-planned course to win these "important elections."

But unlike in the two previous fights — the 'Battle of the Berge' by-election, and the referendum campaign — which were fought with maximum manpower and on the highest possible level, the NP will fight the Soutpansberg by-elections with a much lower profile.

Only two Cabinet Ministers and the Prime Minister are so far lined up for election rallies in Soutpansberg, whilst only two party organisers and a single top-level controlling officer, former MP Mr Tony van Tonder, are

in charge of the NP's election campaign.

The Citizen understands the NP is conducting its election campaign on a very personal and "house-meeting basis" — a campaign which already got underway in December last year.

Lower key

Whilst the NP is effectively running a so-called "lower key" campaign than before, the CP and HNP are both involved in fullscale campaigns in which bitterness towards one another and against the NP surfaced from the outset.

The NP set its planned low key battle plan in operation on nomination day when its Parliamentary candidate, Mr Hein Kruger, indicated in his so-called nomination speech at the official Nomination Court, that the NP planned a "low key campaign" as opposed to the two recent high-powered campaigns.

But Mr Tom Langley, Parliamentary candidate for the CP, used this opportunity to warn the presiding officer in Soutpansberg and the other parties' candidates not to use

illegal and dirty political tactics. He said they would be closely watched.

The HNP Parliamentary candidate, Mr Gert Beetge, replied to Mr Langley's speech by accusing him of having a guilty conscience.

That same evening, the HNP leader, Mr Jaap Marais, addressing the HNP's first election rally, reflected in his speech the real bitterness and wrath that exists between the HNP and CP — wrath apparently because of the CP's refusal to accept the HNP's proposals of co-operation in elections and especially in Soutpansberg.

Not interested

A top CP spokesman yesterday told The Citizen he hoped "the wall of bitterness between the CP and HNP builds up so strongly during the Soutpansberg by-elections that it could never be broken down again because the CP was really not interested in accommodating the HNP in a single party."

News by J Theron, 761 Mitchell Street, Pretoria.

CSO: 3400/570

EARLY RELEASE OF WRIGHT, MARAIS ANTICIPATED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 12

[Text]

DURBAN. — Hopes are high that Captain John Wight (36) and Mr David Marais (35) may be released by the Malagasy government on February 5.

The Indian Ocean island authorities will not comment on persistent rumours that the two South Africans who have been imprisoned on the island for more than six years may be released next month.

But expectations that the two men, who were convicted by a military tribunal for gun-running and espionage, rose at the weekend when a Red Cross official from Nairobi, Kenya, left the island after discussing the release of the men with Malagasy government officials.

Before leaving the island he told at least three sources in Tananarive, the capital of Malagasy, that there was a good chance the two men would be re-

leased early in February.

Last year it was reported by a Sunday newspaper that the men would be released on February 5, but this was subsequently denied by the Malagasy government.

The two men, together with an American, Mr Ed Lapperman, were arrested by island authorities when they were forced to land there after their Cessna aircraft ran out of fuel.

Mr Lapperman was released 18 months ago after negotiations between the US Consul on the island and the authorities.

Mr Lapperman was wanted for questioning in South Africa in connection of diamond smuggling.

The release of the men will be negotiated by the Red Cross as South Africa has no direct diplomatic contact with the Malagasy government.

CSO: 3400/570

NEL DISCUSSES UPCOMING NDEBELE INDEPENDENCE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Jan 84 p 14

[Text]

South Africa's interests in Southern Africa were so interwoven that it could not afford to let any of the peoples it was leading on the road to independence fail, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Louis Nel, said yesterday.

Should that happen, it would, like a "rotten fruit", adversely affect all other independent states in the region, the Deputy Minister said.

"Of course, the contrary is also true. Brilliant achievements in the process of attaining independence, especially in its practical consequences, are the best advertisement and will convince others of our earnestness, including sceptic foreign countries," he added.

Mr Nel was speaking at the opening of a special session of the Kwandebele Legislative Assembly at Siyabuswa, near Pre-

toria.

Referring to the impending independence of the Ndebele Homeland, the Deputy Minister warned that independence should not be allowed to become a term devoid of meaning, but should denote vigorous growth and development.

Independence also did not only imply that a country was not subordinate to any other country, he said.

"There is much more in it than that — the essence of which is that you must be able to act independently.

"Naturally, this is only possible if, among other things, you have a good and competent administration, which is the basis of any sound governmental dispensation," Mr Nel concluded.

CS0: 3400/570

FOURTH SOWETAN COUNCILLOR FIREBOMBED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 5

[Text]

MR S M Tshabalala became the fourth Sowetan councillor this week to fall victim to a gang of arsonists whose method of operation is to hurl petrol bombs through their victims' bedroom windows during the early hours of the morning.

Brigadier DJD Jacobs, of the Soweto CID, said Mr Tshabalala was taken to the Baragwanath Hospital yesterday morning where he received 16 stitches in a hand which he injured while trying to douse the flames.

At about 2am three petrol bombs were hurled through the windows of Mr Tshabalala's Emdeni home while a fourth hit a van which was parked in the driveway.

"Although the damage to the house was negligible Mr Tshabalala hurt his hand while trying to prevent the fire from spreading," said Brig Jacobs.

According to the brigadier the series of petrol bombings were "an attempt to intimidate the various councillors".

At about the same time on Wednesday morning two petrol bombs exploded on the veranda of the home of Mr Patrick Gaboutloeloe, also an Emdeni. The fire was put out before causing damage and no one was injured.

This was the second time arsonists had struck at his home. About two months ago a bomb was thrown through a window causing slight damage.

The other two councillors whose homes were petrol-bombed this week are the Mayor of Soweto, Mr Ephriam Tshabalala and Mr IB Mashao of Dobsonville.

Brig JJ Viktor, Head of the Soweto CID, said all four attacks had followed a similar pattern.

CSO: 3400/570

PROSPECTS FOR INCREASED GOLD, COMMODITIES EXPORTS REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Jan 84 p 26

[Text] SOUTH Africa could hardly afford a strong upswing in its domestic economy without an accompanying increase in the gold price or its other exports in general, the Senior Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr Chris Stals, said in Pretoria yesterday.

However, the prospects of a substantial increase in South Africa's gold and other commodity exports during the course of 1984 were very good, he told delegates to the fifth annual Agrocon Agricultural Outlook conference in Pretoria.

In South Africa, the effects of the adverse international economic situation were exacerbated by the serious drought in the country, with the real GDP declining by 4-1/2 percent during the first three-quarters of 1983, and production for the year being about 3-1/2 percent lower than 1982, he said.

The decline in the domestic demand had been even more pronounced and the total gross domestic expenditure declined by between six and seven percent.

Turning to the rand, Dr Stals said the effective exchange rate had depreciated by 4,3 percent over the last year as a whole.

Movements in the exchange rate were, however, complicated by changes in the relative values of currencies in world markets.

"During 1983, the rand, for example, depreciated by 11,6 percent against the US dollar, but appreciated by one percent against the Deutschmark, and 9,2 percent against the French franc."

Drought conditions had cost South Africa, in terms of imports and exports, a loss of foreign exchange for an amount of approximately R1,5 billion.

"Were it not for the drought, the balance of payments at this juncture would have been much less vulnerable," Dr Stals said.

Huge demands on the Government for drought relief and other purposes, such as the increased interest cost on the Government debt and higher wages and salaries, had created a much larger "deficit before borrowing" than was anticipated in the 1983/84 Budget.

"This deficit was, however, financed in a non-inflationary way by borrowing from the non-banking sector, but contributed towards the need for higher interest rates in the markets.

Turning to the international prospects for 1984, Dr Stals said it was unlikely that the US dollar would remain as strong in foreign exchange markets as it was now.

Economic recovery in other industrial countries had been fairly brittle up to now, but in most cases indications were that further improvements would take place in 1984.

"It may take some time before developing countries will reap the full benefit from these changes, but commodity prices have already improved quite significantly during the past year."

On the South African situation, Dr Stals said that in view of the vulnerable balance of payments situation, the Republic could not allow its domestic expenditure to increase too fast before its exports (of gold and/or other commodities) had increased substantially.

However, "the prospects for such an increase during the course of 1984 are indeed very good."

CSO: 3400/570

INCREASED LABOR PRODUCTIVITY REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Jan 84 p 18

[Text]

WHITES. Blacks, Coloureds and Asians working in the non-agricultural sectors of the South African economy all raised their labour productivity in the 12 years up to 1982.

Only the labour productivity of the Whites improved sufficiently to make a positive contribution to the cost effectiveness of labour in the Republic, the National Productivity Institute says in its annual report for 1983.

The cost effectiveness of total labour in the non-agricultural sectors increased by 0,068 percent a year between 1970 and 1982.

A breakdown of this showed Whites made a positive contribution of 0,9299 percent a year, while the other population groups showed negative contributions: Blacks — minus 0,6406 percent, Coloureds — minus

0,1227 percent, and Asians — minus 0,0986 percent.

Despite the recession, nominal salaries and wages continued to rise at a high rate which was a major contributor to the high inflation rate experienced in 1982/83, the NPI says.

In the manufacturing sector, salaries and wage rates increased by 17,7 percent in nominal terms in the first quarter of 1983 (compared with the same period in 1982), while labour productivity declined by about 4,5 percent during the same time.

A significant relative shift towards greater capital, rather than labour intensive production methods, had taken place between 1970 and 1982.

In the non-agricultural sectors, the capital labour ratio was 56 percent higher in 1982 than in 1970.

CSO: 3400/570

MORE THAN ELEVEN THOUSAND BLACK WORKERS ON STRIKE

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 18 Jan 84 p 3

[Text]

MORE than 11 000 black workers were on strike yesterday over wages and "unfair dismissal" at several companies, despite the high rate of unemployment.

At AECI company's three plants — Modderfontein, Midland and Somerset West — more than 7200 workers went on strike over wages and working conditions.

The company's spokesman, Mr R Vermont, said workers at the Umbogintwini (Natal) plant were still working, despite the nation-wide legal strike.

In another labour unrest, about 1000 miners at Rietspruit Collieries near Witbank, members of the National Union of Mineworkers (Num), downed tools for the second time in a week.

- Last Friday the miners held a work-stoppage in sympathy with two colleagues who died at the coal mine. Yesterday workers went on strike over the dismissal of a colleague for "allegedly participating in the work-stoppage," according to the Union's general secretary, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa.

In Rosslyn near Pretoria, about 1500 workers employed at BMW downed tools over wages. Workers said that management had refused to implement an hourly R3,50 across the board wage increase.

BMW's spokesman Mr Pierie De la Rey said that the workers were apparently not happy with the 10 cents increase which came into effect from this month. The company was negotiating with the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union representing workers.

CSO: 3400/570

IMPALA PLATINUM REFINERIES STRUCK, BLACK WORKFORCE DISMISSED

NUM Snubbed

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 13 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by Joshua Raboroko]

[Text] ABOUT 1 500 mine workers at the Impala Platinum Refineries near Springs yesterday went on strike after the sacking of seven colleagues and for allegedly been called kaffirs by white supervisors.

This is the first time black miners go on strike since their union, the National Union of Mineworkers, signed a recognition agreement with the Chamber of Mines of South Africa.

In a separate incident thousands of black miners have threatened to go on strike following the killing of two and injuring of another while they were repairing a pylon at the Rietspruit Collieries near Witbank yesterday.

The dead miners were Mr Alpheus Makhaya and Mr Abram Nkosi, and the injured worker is Mr Peter Nene, who is lying seriously ill at the Rand Mutual Hospital in Johannesburg.

Emotion-charged placard-carrying strikers at the Platinum Refineries, chanting freedom songs and making black power salutes yesterday complained of assaults and abuse by their supervisors who, they demand, be immediately replaced at the plant.

Strict security was maintained following an incident in which a white warden at the workers' hostel was forced to leave the premises by the dwellers amid shouts of "Amandla" and "United We Stand".

The miners told The SOWETAN that white supervisors often refer to them as kaffirs and ill-treat them. They have complained to management about the issues, but to no avail. Their bosses are also, apparently, against the union.

Matters came to a head on Wednesday when a colleague was allegedly involved in a fight with a white supervisor over the usage of kaffir and other working conditions.

The worker was accompanied by six colleagues, and without listening to their grievances, they were summarily dismissed by management.

"As a result of this action and other similar incidents we decided to down tools and will continue to do so until management changes its minds about this kind of attitude," the workers said.

Workers also complained about working conditions and the low salaries. "We have talked to management about these, but they have ignored us, and our union," they said.

Num's general secretary, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, said he tried his best to talk to management but has drawn a blank.

"I personally went to the refineries in an attempt to resolve the issue, but management has refused to talk to me and other union officials.

"I am stunned by this kind of relationship because we are currently negotiating a recognition agreement with the company," he said.

Migrant Workers Ousted

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 8

[Text]

THE management of Impala Platinum Refineries, whose entire striking black workforce of 1 400 was recently dismissed, was "busy preparing a statement on the last 200 workers who were expected to collect their pay and documents" a company spokesman said yesterday.

The 1 400 who are migrant workers and will have to return to their homelands, were sacked after going on strike following what they considered the unfair dismissal of seven colleagues.

Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, has warned of a growing bitterness among the Black mineworkers.

CSO: 3400/570

SHORTAGE OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS 'CRITICAL'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 12

[Text] INDICATIONS are that the critical shortage of professional engineers will increase, according to the president of the South African Council for Professional Engineers (SACPE), Professor D W de Vos.

He said in his annual report of SACPE: "The need for professional engineers continues to increase. In 1981 there was a demand for about 2 800 additional professional engineers. The supply was a mere 900 leaving a shortfall of 1 900. The indications are that the shortfall will increase."

Among Afrikaans-speaking Whites "there are potentially still male students who are interested in studying engineering. With the establishment of engineering facilities at Rand Afrikaans University and Potchefstroom University more students could now be attracted".

The report had a strong recommendation for boosting the supply of engineers both by immigration and by attempting to attract more White women and non-Whites to the profession.

"One can only conclude that the profession of civil engineering is moving into a manpower crisis".

A delegation of SACPE recently held discussions with the Minister of Education and Training and stressed the need to facilitate the study of engineering.

It also suggested a full-scale pilot study at least at one black university to complement the studies being undertaken at the University of Witwatersrand.

The delegation also advocated freedom of applicants to apply for entry to any faculty which would accept Black students on condition that equal entry standards be applied.

They reported that the Minister "accepted the need for educating many black engineers and undertook to consider carefully the proposals made."

CSO: 3400/570

LIVING STANDARDS SHOW THREE YEAR DECLINE

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 12 Jan 84 p 2

[Text]

SOUTH AFRICA is considerably poorer today than in 1960, with per capita living standards having declined by about 13% over the past three years, says the Volkskas Economic Spotlight.

The past two years have been the worst period for South Africa since the Second World War. Under the influence of world recession and drought, the decline in real business activity has been unprecedented.

Company profits have either dropped or risen at a much slower rate.

Job opportunities have become scarcer. Total employment in the non-agricultural sectors has declined, with unemployment rising sharply.

In personal finance, the manner in which people buy goods on credit borders on recklessness.

The rate of increase in real private consumption expenditure since 1961 has consistently exceeded the growth rate of personal disposable income.

The propensity to save has been dropping sharply and it is probable that the personal savings ratio for 1983 will fall to an historical low.

This is an unhealthy development, not only because the individual is pawning a large proportion of future earnings to pay off current debt, but also because it diminishes the important contribution personal savings can make to the availability of investment capital.

The spotlight says the outstanding feature of Government spending in the past few years had been the extent to which actual expenditure has exceeded Budget targets.

The 1984/5 Budget will largely determine the course of economic events over the next few years.

Of particular significance are:

● A rapidly increasing interest burden

arising from the larger amounts borrowed by the Treasury at high interest rates to finance the Budget deficit;

● The demands of Defence;

● Higher public service salaries and wages;

● Ever-growing allocations for social expenditure.

Added to these Budget requirements are essential capital projects that can no longer be postponed. When all these factors are taken together, it seems certain Government spending is likely to rise by about 18% in 1984/5.

This means the deficit before borrowing will be larger than the amount budgeted for in the current financial year. The Minister of Finance, Mr Owen Horwood, will hardly be able to avoid a tax increase, and this would be a serious blow to business and to consumer confidence.

"In our view, an increase in general sales tax, however unpopular it may be, will have the least adverse effects on the economy in the long term," says the spotlight.

One alternative to a tax increase is to continue financing the larger deficit by way of loans, but to avoid using loan funds to finance current expenditure, which is not consistent with either financial discipline or the principles of sound financing.

The third option — to use bank credit to help finance the deficit — should be avoided.

The Minister should do everything possible to curb the increase in Government spending. This would:

● Avert the possibility of the growth rate being retarded;

● Help curb inflation;

● Strengthen the balance of payments;

● Prevent interest rates from remaining at present high levels — or rising even higher.

VAST SATS UPDATING PROGRAM REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Jan 84 p 8

[Text]

SOUTH African Railways yesterday embarked on a R46-million modernisation programme when the Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, inaugurated the first of two prototype new generation stainless steel trainsets, despite losses of about R750-million on passenger services.

At the ceremony at which Mr Schoeman took delivery of the Japanese prototype train, he said: "Unfortunately huge losses to the extent of some R750-million a year are suffered on our passenger services. We are only partly compensated in this regard by the Government. The remainder we have to find ourselves in order to balance the books."

During the early 1970's the South African Transport Services started with investigations to modernise its suburban commuter trainsets in order to cater for the growing passenger demand. Plans and specifications were drawn up for two prototypes of new generation trainsets that would better meet modern require-

ments on the densely operated suburban passenger train services.

On the new train, passenger capacity will be increased by 15 percent per trainset of 12 coaches.

Energy-saving of up to 27 percent is to be obtained due to chopper control and regenerative braking. A feature of the train was its acceleration and its capacity to stop faster than other trains.

The stainless steel bodies of the new coaches will mean lower maintenance costs for painting, body repairs and cleaning.

Reduced entraining/de-training times are to be obtained on account of eight doors fitted instead of four per coach.

The trainset is also equipped with a public address system enabling the driver to communicate with the passengers.

The prototype trainset will be tested and evaluated by the South African Transport Services for a period of at least six months and, if proven successful, eight additional trainsets will be ordered at a cost of about R46-million.

EDUCATION MINISTER ON EFFORTS TO IMPROVE BLACK EDUCATION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 Jan 84 p 9

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

THE Minister of Education and Training, Mr B J du Plessis, last night told young Whites at a youth symposium massive steps were being taken to eradicate the backlog in Black education — and South Africa's welfare depended on the youth of all races.

Opening the symposium, held by the Afrikaanse Sakekamer of Pretoria, Mr Du Plessis said South Africa's greatest wealth — of many resources — lay in her people.

"And our greatest wealth, then, lies in our youth — of all race groups.

"Our land belongs to them."

He said South Africa was leading the field in development and achievement in Africa and could even now boast a per capita income of R1 770 a year — five times higher than the rest of Africa.

He urged young people of all races to strive for education and training and to apply themselves to their careers in the interests of all the peoples of the Republic.

"Personal success finds echoes in sound govern-

ment for the whole South Africa," Mr Du Plessis said.

"We desperately need the contribution of our children."

But South African youth would have to face many challenges and problems — ranging from environmental conservation to facing a hostile world; from developing all natural resources to the best ability to striving for peaceful co-existence.

The State was giving top priority to eliminating a massive backlog which had arisen in Black education because of the Black population explosion.

He listed many projects under way, including upgrading programmes for teachers which would enable them to seek salary parity with the Whites.

For the future, he said, estimates were that the White share of the population would decrease by the turn of the century to 11.1 percent from 16.5 percent, while that of Blacks would increase to 77.8 from 71.3 percent.

Meanwhile, he said, the number of fulltime Black matriculants had increased sevenfold from 11 000 in 1977 to 76 500 in 1981 — a period of six years.

BUTHELEZI TELLS ZULU STUDENTS TO WATCH OUT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Jan 84 p 5

[Article by Tim Clarke]

[Text]

DURBAN. — Chief Gatsha Buthelezi has warned KwaZulu bursary holders throughout the country that he will not allow criticism of himself, Inkatha or KwaZulu.

He made this plain, according to the students of Zululand, at a meeting at Ulundi, Zululand, last week.

Chief Buthelezi, according to the students, warned them that if they did criticise him, Inkatha or KwaZulu, their funds from the KwaZulu Government for bursaries would be cut off immediately.

Pledge

The strong action by the KwaZulu government has infuriated students and is seen as a move to prevent further trouble at the University of Zululand campus where five students were killed and numerous others injured in clashes with Inkatha last October.

Another group of students was called to Ulundi yesterday where they

were asked to sign a pledge not to criticise the KwaZulu Government or Inkatha.

The first group of about 200 students, all KwaZulu bursary holders, was called to Ulundi last week. The students were addressed by Chief Buthelezi and other members of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly on Wednesday.

Previously they had all been notified by telegram to attend the meeting.

The students said the meeting started about 11 am on January 4, lasted through the night and finished at 5 pm the next day.

In his address, Chief Buthelezi dealt at length with the unrest at the University of Zululand last year, and said he would not tolerate it.

Afterwards students were asked individually to state their view, and were also questioned by the members of the Legislative Assembly.

Chief Buthelezi said repeatedly he did not expect students to regard him, members of his Gov-

ernment and Inkatha as being open to attack while the students accepted money for their education from the KwaZulu Government.

Toe the line

According to one of the students, they were virtually told that if they did not toe the line, their bursaries would be cut off immediately.

The pledge they were asked to sign said they should not speak in contempt of the KwaZulu Government, Chief Buthelezi, the members of his Cabinet, and all persons in authority of the KwaZulu Government.

The pledge also stated that the students were not to criticize Inkatha and his leadership in public or in private, and that students should defend the integrity of the KwaZulu Government and his leadership whenever this was brought into disrepute.

Chief Buthelezi could not be contacted for comment yesterday.

The University of Zululand is due to reopen next month after the holiday recess.

PRETORIA'S PLAN TO CLOSE PARKS TO BLACKS OPPOSED

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 16 Jan 84 p 5

[Text]

THE Pretoria City Council's controversial efforts to close 17 of its parks to blacks will be raised on a national level by the city's Indian and coloured leaders, a prominent Indian community leader said in Pretoria yesterday.

Mr Boetie Abramjee confirmed yesterday that the parks issue will be raised at a meeting of the Council for the Coordination of Local Government Affairs on January 30.

The Minister of Constitutional Devel-

opment, Mr Chris Heunis, is the chairman of the council which is the highest body for local government consultation between whites, Indians, coloureds and the Government.

Meanwhile the chairman of the Eersterus Management Committee, Mr Willie Hoods, said he would call on the coloured Labour Party to raise the parks issue with the Government "on a very high level."

Mr Abramjee, who also serves on the Laudium Management Committee, said the

Government was talking about reform but the city council of Pretoria was moving away from this idea.

NONSENSE

Mr Hoods said: "I hope the Provincial and Central Government will intervene and stop the nonsense of the city council. We are talking in terms of a new constitutional dispensation, and it is senseless for the council to implement the parks apartheid. This issue has already caused the Government embarrassment locally and overseas."

CSO: 3400/570

DAIRY BOARD EXPORTS MILK TO REDUCE MASSIVE SURPLUS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 5

[Text]

PRETORIA. — The Dairy Board is exporting thousands of tons of skimmed milk powder — at a loss of as much as R28 million — to reduce a massive surplus.

The Board has so far shipped about 7 000 tons of milk powder to Japan and Taiwan at very low prices and, it is understood, has taken out a R28-million loan from the Land Bank to cover these losses.

And, while the country still has a massive stockpile — enough for 12 months — a leading skimmed milk powder manufacturer has increased its price by 11 percent.

Consumer organisations today condemned the practice of "dumping" milk powder on overseas markets at a loss while the local market

had to pay more.

'Making mistake'

The Assistant Director of the South African Consumer Council, Mr Bernard Hellberg, said: "It does not make sense. Manufacturers who think they can win the public's goodwill like this are making a mistake."

The Manager of the Dairy Board, Mr Edu Roux, confirmed in Pretoria that about 9 500 tons of skimmed milk powder was being exported to Japan and Taiwan, where it would mostly be used in stock feeds.

He said the powder was being exported at a big loss as a result of low world prices.

The loss would be compensated for solely out of the Dairy Board's stabilisation fund, which was financed by means of pro-

ducers' levies.

A Dairy Board spokesman said the Board acquired a Land Bank loan of R32 million. The largest part of this amount — R28 million — was needed because the Board's stabilisation fund did not have sufficient cash in June last year to cover the envisaged export losses.

repay loan

As from July 1 last year, producers' contributions to the stabilisation fund were increased by 2c a litre for fresh milk producers, and R1,51 per 100kg for industrial milk producers. This was to enable the Dairy Board to repay the Land Bank loan with interest.

The Board estimated it would repay the loan in 18 months to two years.

CSO: 3400/570

COMMODITY REPORTS REFLECT GRIM OVERALL SCENE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 13

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

THE far-reaching and long-term recovery consequences of South Africa's worst drought were spelled out clearly in Pretoria yesterday as the individual agricultural industries reported their status at the Agricultural Outlook Conference.

A spokesman for the deciduous fruit industry reported that total production dropped last year by 10,6 percent — from 554 088 tons to 495 385.

Apple exports were particularly hard hit and in the overall picture fruit exports dropped from R80,7-million in 1982 to R17,6-million — 78 percent.

The Maize Board said it would be unfair of the Government not to bear any liability for losses on the export of maize — and warned that an "injurious" increase in prices soon could shipwreck the industry.

Maize for human consumption was not an expanding market and the increase in the demand for maize products did not keep pace with the annual population growth.

"It therefore stands to

reason that rapid increases in the prices of maize products may lead to a more rapid movement away from them. An injudicious increase in maize prices, which form an important part of the cost structure of animal products, may lead to a decline in the market size for these products and again would eventually harm maize sales.

Despite a severe decrease in banana plantings in the last season, the actual yield increased by nearly 20 percent because of improved production methods.

The 1983 citrus crop was the lowest in six years and the second lowest in the past 10 years — 18 percent smaller than the record crop of 1981.

Nor, reported the Citrus Exchange, were the prospects for 1984 very favourable at this stage. It was quite probable that the industry would not be able to supply the export market, which in turn would attract competitors to fill the gap.

About 28 000 tons of dry beans had to be imported to satisfy local market requirements.

The Oil Seeds Board reported that while South

African peanuts had become a very popular product overseas, the drought had resulted in massive drops in this and other crops — so much so that on the international market the gap was being taken by other growers and South Africa would have to rebuild markets.

Cotton farmers complained about the inadequacy of the present cotton scheme and the fact that the cotton board could only take ad hoc control measures to eliminate problems — and then only in the short term.

South Africa is facing the grim prospect of substantial and unmanageable surpluses of wheat as more maize farmers switch to wheat planting.

Because of the severe drought only 1 456 000 tons was exported with the balance being carried over to supplement the expected shortfall in local consumption.

The carry-over stocks of 1,06-million tons, plus the estimated crop of

1,56-million tons should be sufficient for the country's needs ahead of about 1,88-million tons — and give a carry-over at the end of the 1983/84 season of 0,74-million tons.

South Africa's State-protected and much criticised fertiliser industry is gearing up to withstand a siege of free market price competition internationally following the abolition of price and import controls, the conference was told.

A special report listed current overseas prices for various fertiliser constituents putting the South African equivalents in an unfavourable light pricewise.

Local prices after the phasing out would not only be subject to variations in international prices, but also to varying rates of exchange. This would mean that the local prices of fertiliser could vary from month to month.

WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENTS DESCRIBED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 13

[Text]

DURBAN. — a R250 million water tunnel carrying supplementary supplies from the Umkomaas River to Midmar Dam will be constructed as the final phase of a project designed to link several catchment areas for the Durban and Pietermaritzburg areas.

Mr Fred Munro, Circle Engineer for the Directorate of Water affairs in Durban, said the recently commissioned Mooi River emergency pumping scheme formed the first phase of a four-part operation and was currently boosting the level of Midmar Dam at a rate of 3 400 litres a second. The second phase of the scheme included raising the level of the wall at Midmar Dam to cope with extra supplies.

Extra storage facilities would be built on the Mooi River and pump capacities would be in-

creased as part of the next phase.

A tunnel from the Umkomaas River to tap an almost "untouched" catchment area would also be built.

"The tunnel will be large enough to enable us to stop using the Mooi River pumping scheme," Mr Munro said.

He said the completion of the R65 million Inanda Dam, near Hillcrest, would provide Durban and Pietermaritzburg with enough water for at least 40 years.

He was confident that work on the dam, with a planned capacity of 225 billion litres, would start soon.

The dam, on the Umgeni River in the Valley of a Thousand Hills, would be capable of tapping large quantities of water currently running to waste and should be completed by 1989.

CSO: 3400/570

SIGMA MOTOR CORPORATION RETRENCHES WORKERS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 8

[Text]

ALMOST 850 workers at Sigma motor corporation in Pretoria were retrenched yesterday.

The workers, about 120 salaried staff and 725 hourly-paid workers, were told it had "regrettably become necessary" for them to lose their jobs as a result of the giant motor manufacturer having to reduce its fixed and variable costs in a drive to meet competition.

The managing director, Mr Spencer Sterling, said: "I deeply and sincerely regret that some people have to lose their jobs, but I am afraid there is absolutely no alternative if this company is to achieve a competitive cost structure which is a vital prerequisite to the creation of a stable and profitable business."

A Sigma spokesman said last year had been a period of reorganisation and expansion at "tre-

mendous cost".

A number of new products had been launched in the second half of the year, the expansion programme at Sigma Park had been completed, and the company had been reorganised and restructured from top to bottom. Key management appointments had also been made.

The spokesman said that, while Sigma's market penetration had improved progressively in the first three quarters of 1983, severe supply problems in the fourth quarter, "as well as the lack of adequate dealer representation.

The company, owned jointly by the Anglo American Corporation and Anglo American Industrial Corporation, in equal shares, recorded a loss of about R50-million last financial year and is reported to be heading for another major loss.

CSO: 3400/570

BRIEFS

STRIKERS FIRED--ABOUT 180 striking workers at the OK Bazaars Hyperama in Sandton, Johannesburg, were fired yesterday when they did not meet a midday deadline to return to work or be dismissed, a spokesman for OK said. They went on strike four days ago in protest against the dismissal of a shop steward of the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union. There was no chance of the strikers being re-employed, commented Mr Keith Hartshorne, OK's industrial relations officer. The company was presently assessing how many dismissed workers would be replaced, he said. The strike began on Monday in protest against the dismissal of the shop steward. The shop steward's appeal against his dismissal had been rejected, but "he was free to appeal to a higher authority in the company in accordance with procedures agreed upon between the company and the union". The union countered OK's statement that the "strikers had not only rejected using the procedure for complaints negotiated with their union, but were also acting illegally in terms of the Labour Relations Act". A union spokesman said OK had in fact contravened the recognition agreement procedures by not following proper procedure when dismissing the shop steward. "He was entitled to representation, which they refused him. The workers also believed he was being victimised because he was a shop steward and their elected representative," he said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 8]

MALAYS CLAIM VREDEDORP--Members of Johannesburg's Malay community claim there is documentary proof that Vrededorp was given to them by Paul Kruger in the late 1890's. Should the claim be substantiated by the document, said to be in Cape Town, the members of this group representing Johannesburg's various mosques, hope to revive Vrededorp as the traditional religious home of this city's presently dispersed Malay community. Mr Cassiem Gassiep, the Mosque Committee's treasurer, said although Vrededorp's Indian community had made similar verbal claims, these must be discounted as Asians were not allowed into the Transvaal at that time, in fact, he remarked, these people were only granted free movement throughout South Africa in the 1960's. Mr Gassiep also emphasised that these opposing claims had caused no racial friction. The issue was not a question of racial dominance in the area. "We are concerned with the real need for the Malay community to be reunited in one traditionally Malay area. Vrededorp houses the 23rd Street mosque which is unique in being more than just a place of worship. It was built "by the people for the people," and had a deep emotional significance, he explained. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Jan 84 p 3]

DURBAN'S SISTER CITY--TAIPEI--The Kaohsiung Municipal Council adopted a resolution yesterday to establish sisterhood ties between Taiwan's second-largest city and Durban. Durban will become its 16th sister city and the first in Africa to team up with Kaohsiung. The Kaohsiung Council is undertaking the procedures to implement the decision. The Durban Municipal Council passed the resolution to enter sister relations with Kaohsiung two years ago. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Jan 84 p 8]

COLOURED ENROLLMENT--CAPE TOWN--A total of 607 990 primary and 173 186 secondary pupils went back to classes yesterday when Department of Internal Affairs schools opened across the country. Primary school enrolments dropped from 614 362 last year, but secondary schools figures were more than 11 000 up. In the Peninsula region, which includes Wynberg, Mitchell's Plain, Bellville, Somerset West and Paarl, 319 375 children enrolled in primary and secondary schools. Some Coloured pupils will, for the first time, be taught in mobile classrooms constructed by the Department of Internal Affairs in an attempt to eliminate double-shift classes. Three mobile classrooms were being used in the Wynberg region, which included Cape Flats schools, and 26 in the Bellville region. A sum of R20-million has been allocated over the next three financial years to supply mobile classrooms around the country. An estimated 400 classrooms should be completed by March 21, he said. The department had either to turn away pupils or use the available accommodation--hence the double-shift system which had proved unsatisfactory. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Jan 84 p 2]

NEW TECHNICAL DIGEST--A publication which will provide manufacturers and distributors with information on new inventions and licences available for exploitation in South Africa has been launched in Pretoria. The magazine, Novum, is a monthly digest of new patents, processes and licences, both local and overseas. Items range from toys to mining equipment. Novum is the brainchild of Barry Newdigate, a Pretoria design engineer who believes that the time is ripe for the establishment of a marketplace for patents and new designs. "For far too long," he says, "there has been a lack of communication between businessmen seeking fresh ideas and patent holders wishing to find local licences." Novum is published by BNS Technical, PO Box 71602, the Willows, 0041. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICAN DIGEST in English 6 Jan 84 p 7]

BOPHUTHATSWANA ACTION ON TRADE UNIONS--The Bophuthatswana minister of manpower, Mr Ron Cronje, says the black state will not allow trade unions not registered in Bophuthatswana to become active in the country. Mr Cronje said that if it should come to the attention of his government that South African trade unions were intimidating Bophuthatswana citizens, or were making it impossible to work in peace in South Africa, the matter would immediately be brought to the attention of the South African authorities for the appropriate action. Mr Cronje was reacting to rumors that Tswana workers at the Medical University of Southern Africa were in danger of losing their jobs, and he said the matter was being investigated. [Text] [MB201852 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Jan 84]

NATION'S SOCIALISM HAS REPORTEDLY LOST ITS APPEAL

Paris LE MONDE in French 10 Jan 84 p 14

[Article by Jacques de Barrin: "Tanzania: A Bankruptcy Balance Sheet Attributed to Bad Luck"]

[Text] Even if it is only for two fried eggs, it sometimes happens that a restaurateur cannot fill a customer's order. Store counters are hopelessly empty and so is the state's treasury. The Tanzania of Julius Nyerere, who exalted a genuine and purifying African socialism, is sinking into shortages and taking a "great leap backwards."

With a very few exceptions, all the indicators on the instrument panel of the Tanzanian economy are showing red. The gross domestic product fell 3.2 percent in 1982. The agricultural sector's share diminished by 8.2 percent. Industrial production fell 25.4 percent. The inflation rate is running around 30 percent per year. On the black market, the dollar is being exchanged against the shilling at eight times its official price. The foreign debt is over \$2 billion. As for foreign currency reserves, they "rose" to a few million dollars, the equivalent of a few--hours of importation. The bottom line is a bankruptcy balance sheet.

Farmers, however much they may be the regime's cherished children, are leading a hard life. For lack of means of transportation, seeds and insecticides are not getting to them in time and their harvests, because of poor storage conditions, are suffering delays in picking. Added to this are lack of fuel and spare parts--3,000 out of 10,000 tractors are in working order--, invasive bureaucracy and the absence of profitable selling prices, since the parapublic marketing companies charge unmercifully for their services.

What use is it, under these conditions, to work a piece of land with no hope of making a profit? The Tanzanian peasants are rediscovering the virtues of the subsistence economy. Those who are lucky enough to live along the borders, especially along the recently re-opened Kenyan border, are attempting to barter with their neighbors to procure products of primary necessity, such as soap. The result of this disenchantment: most export crops--coffee, cotton, cashew nuts, sisal--are plummeting.

Vanishing Credit

To tell the truth, the entire nation is idling. Taking into account all modes of transportation, the number of passengers declined by half between 1973 and 1981. Several years after it went into service, several hundred Chinese experts are still supervising the operation of the Tanzania-Zambia railroad line, the Tazara, whose freight traffic has not yet reached the break-even point. A more mundane detail is that, of the 212 garbage trucks owned by the municipality of Dar-es-Salaam, only seven go back and forth across the capital.

For lack of foreign currency, Tanzania in 1983 consumed 570,000 tons of oil, while its needs rose to about 850,000 tons. Three times in the course of the year, the refinery, finding itself out of oil, had to interrupt its activities. As for the three cement works, they are running at a third of their capacity. The lack of domestic kerosene is forcing the population to use charcoal.

Faced with its insolvency, Tanzania's suppliers have given up signing long-term supply contracts with it. Everything is now being negotiated on an impromptu basis. Thus, a tanker was seen to wait 8 days in the harbor at Dar-es-Salaam for its cargo to be paid for, before being unloaded. In such a critical situation, local authorities no longer have any real choice of trading partners. Hence the scandal that was exposed in November by the OBSERVER, involving oil deals with the Republic of South Africa. At the end of a rather embarrassed denial, the government concluded that "even the most scrupulous nation can be deceived." All of these blockages, errors and inadequacies are denounced by the government and the press.

The fault, some say, is with the men who did not properly assimilate President Nyerere's teachings, or who turned them to their own advantage. The fault also lies with an international environment that annihilates the efforts of the poorest nations, notably the famous "deterioration in the terms of exchange," to which Tanzanian leaders constantly refer. "We will have to tighten our belts for a very long time," the minister for the economy said recently. "But there is no reason to panic, because many countries all over the world are facing the same problems."

Negotiations with the IMF [International Monetary Fund]

The government has not remained inactive in the face of a decline that seemed to be inexorable. The "economic survival plan" as well as the "structural adjustment program" nevertheless yielded no significant result. But had their success not been tied to substantial aid from the international organizations, notably the International Monetary Fund, to the "diktats" that Tanzania rightly refuses to abide by?

Negotiations with the IMF have been dragging on since 1980. Before releasing its funds it is demanding from Tanzania that it put its economic affairs in order again, and in depth, which means not stopping at a few appropriate measures. On its list of "recommendations" there is, among others, a devaluation of the shilling. The ratio of Tanzanian currency to the dollar should fall from 12.20 to 25 or 30. The government refuses to comply, fearing the socio-political consequences of so rough a measure. Despite everything, it is not certain that President Nyerere is forcing the IMF--which is his aim--to "change its way of doing things."

After the mistake made by the third five-year plan, which in 1976 put the accent on industry, the priority today is on agriculture, which brings into the nation more than three fourths of its foreign currency. Established on the conclusions of "the Mbiliny Report," the new policy is intended to be more pragmatic and less constraining than the previous one. Among other things, it brings up the question of reviving the producers' cooperatives, which were abolished in 1976 because they were overshadowing the local party authorities, giving land--which belongs to the people--to those who cultivate it, thanks to long-term leases, and forcing state-run farms to use commercial management methods.

Will those good intentions be followed by results? It is certain that within the single party, the Rally for the Revolution, many of the officials are balking at such a development which, with foreign inspiration, may seem to them not to conform very well to the canons of Tanzanian socialism. Will the new generation of leaders show itself to be more receptive than the previous one to these ideas, and less suspicious of any private initiative? Be that as it may, the state, omnipotent and omnipresent, will have a great deal of trouble handing over some of its tasks. If the government makes good on its intention to "skim the fat off" the public sector, which is over 300 companies strong, what will become of the thousands of employees who were placed there for purely social reasons?

The "Sleeping Pioneer"

In a totally depressed economic climate, what effects can be produced by the spectacular measures that really make no difference? Thus, under the "law on redeployment of human resources," 20,000 spurious city dwellers would present themselves as "volunteers" to go and work in the fields, rather than drag out their idleness in Dar-es-Salaam. How many have actually taken the road to the countryside? Perhaps a few dozen. Everyone here tells the story of the "train from Moshi." It leaves the capital for the north, crammed with "pioneers." When it arrives at its destination, only one traveler is still on board. "How does it happen that you are alone?", someone asks him. And the reply: "I fell asleep."

In March, the government also launched a vast campaign against "economic saboteurs." More than 2,200 have already been arrested, whether they were--for example--gas pumpers who were selling gasoline under the table at two and a half times its official price, or top officials in charge of the development of Dodoma, the new capital, who had misappropriated public funds for their own profit. The arrests were sword strokes under water, since nothing has been done to attack the black market and the misappropriation of public funds at their roots, that is to say, to radically challenge the regime's economic positions.

The patent failure of Tanzanian socialism favors the development of a parallel underground economy. Has it not been said that the state controls barely 10 percent of the food production? The parental relations system is picking up strength again and making it possible to share the shortages. Bartering is respectable. "This poor country's strength is that most of its people are living apart from monetary circles, and that for them, inflation and devaluation are still abstract ideas," an economist emphasizes.

Under those conditions, even though they are felt more keenly by the urban population--the minimum wage (600 shillings a month, about 400 francs) has not been raised since July 1981--the economic setbacks, which the man in the street tends to attribute to "bad luck," should nevertheless not seriously compromise the stability of the regime. In this connection, no one in Dar-es-Salaam made a tragedy out of the discovery in January 1983 of a plot to assassinate President Nyerere, a plot in which 30 persons had a hand, including 20 soldiers.

Today, Tanzanian socialism has lost a large part of its seductive power. Various lenders are beginning to allow themselves to come to the aid of a country that has virtually ceased making payments and is living more and more on donations. There are still states, like Sweden, which, by political and ideological preference are making every effort, in good years and bad, to keep its head above water. Unfortunately, charity has never enabled a nation to develop.

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NGUZA KARL-I-BOND ON DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA

Brussels LE SOIR in French 27 Dec 83 pp 1, 3

[Article by Nguza Karl-I-Bond, former prime minister of Zaire]

[Text] An oft-recurring question is whether democracy is valid or even possible for African countries.

In my opinion the question is badly put, for it masks the feeling that the peoples of Africa have always lived in ignorance of democratic reality, or simply that they are impervious to that type of political system. But the history of Africa proves that traditional societies were founded on fairly well defined democratic principles. The question should be put in terms of what type of democracy would best suit the countries of Africa. It is more a matter of applying democratic principles than of questioning them anew.

It is mistaken to pretend that traditional African society was exclusively one of bloodthirsty potentates with unlimited and uncontrolled powers. The powwow is an historical fact which confirms that the African has always believed in the virtue of dialogue. So the problem is not one of teaching democratic principles to our peoples, but rather one of creating machinery which would permit the sovereignty of the people to be respected. The principles of liberty, equality, and citizen participation in the management of their society must allow the freely elected representatives of the people to translate those principles into fact. Moreover, periodic renewal of electoral mandates can constitute approval or, should the occasion arise, sanctions by the people. In my book "Le Zaire de demain" (Antwerp, W. Soethoudt) I wrote: "To accept an opposition thus seems to me to be above all a sign of modesty, which is possible only if we do not confuse our own particular interests with the higher interests of the nation we serve. It is not by chance that the Greeks--for whom hubris, or pride, and excess were the worst of human faults--were the major artisans of democracy."

In traditional African power structures that principle was guaranteed by rules and by persons whose function it was to denounce excesses by the chief. Democracy, even if limited to two or three trends of thought, is a sound principle in politics.

In the face of that African debate the attitude of the outside world is very indicative of its slight regard for the peoples of Africa and their aspirations. The East-West conflict, alas, is making itself strongly felt in Africa, and poses a real problem for the regional integration which is so necessary for the continent's development. In "Le Zaire de demain" I wrote on this subject that "Africa has made a doctrinal principle of alignment with the East or West, whereas that is a question of advisability to be settled with a certain pragmatism." It is a form of alienation which must be transcended, for beyond the concrete issues affecting Africa it is easy to see to what extent that split between Africans reflects a conflict, external to the continent, between the two superpowers, the United States of America and the Soviet Union--which nonetheless freely exchange vodka and grain.

In a lucid analysis ("Quel Etat pour l'Afrique," in PRESENCE AFRICAINE no. 107, Paris) Thierry Michalon describes this paradox: "...we are forced to note that the indispensable ideological splits have not occurred, despite recourse to a certain vocabulary. The whole discourse of the political-administrative class--the African establishment--becomes a broad deception tending to spread the conviction that the structures on which it rests are those best suited to promote "development." So we always find, firmly established, neo-colonial bourgeois dictatorships in most African countries, and nationalist bourgeois dictatorships in those professing socialism."

All writings of the Left and of Eastern countries, as well as all discourse in the West, have this in common: to leave Africa to its own realities, while making sure that the latter in fact mean Africa's alignment with this or that power. The plan is simple: for the Left and Eastern bloc countries, the best regimes are those Thierry Michalon calls nationalist bourgeois dictatorships, and which are known by the revolutionary nationalist label. Their fight for development and against "neo-colonial imperialism" cannot allow political pluralism. I was able to find an excellent summary of that attitude in Jean Ziegler's article in AFRIQUE-ASIE of 21 November 1983: "How is it possible to rebel against establishment of a single party regime in Mozambique when that country is torn by tribal rivalries, so that establishment of pluralism would serve only to sharpen hatred between hostile ethnic groups? In a word, it is out of the question to apply to governmental action by revolutionary nationalists of the Third World the same criteria we have a right to apply when judging the acts of the socialist government of France, for example."

On the other hand, judgments by the East or the Left are severe when it comes to what Thierry Michalon calls the bourgeois neo-colonial dictatorships. These are called lackeys of imperialism (read the West, with the United States of America in the lead) who sell their countries and peoples to international capitalism. In such countries the East works to break up the establishment and replace it by revolutionary nationalists.

In the Western view, the best of African realities are on the side of the "bourgeois neo-colonialist dictatorships." Their reality consists in pre-

serving Western presence and influence in Africa through "strong men" created and controllable at will. Such strong men guarantee the strategic and economic interests of the West. For those African states democracy consists in making a few political adjustments particularly preferential to a monolithic and very often dictatorial regime. In the West the excuse found for this sort of regime, so as to ease the Western conscience, is that Africa differs from the industrialized states of the West and that its "realities" must be accepted, with its right to be different, as is fondly repeated under certain African skies. Why then should these "African realities" be acceptable only in "neo-colonialist bourgeois dictatorships," and not in so-called "revolutionary nationalist" states? The West intervenes, even militarily, in Third World countries in order to preserve them from "communist dictatorship" and "guarantee democracy and the interests of the free world."

As an African and a democratic nationalist, I merely note that in this debate East and West speak the same language: "African realities" must above all be taken into account, provided those realities correspond to the aims of one or the other camp.

That makes me think of the title of Andre Fontaine's book "Un seul lit pour deux rêves" (One Bed for Two Dreams), taken from the famous quip by Chinese leader Chou En-lai: "The great powers sleep in the same bed, but do not have the same dream."

The debate on political institutions in Africa is an African debate. All Africans recognize Africa's attachment to the virtues of dialogue. All Africans recognize the need to defend civil liberties, popular sovereignty, and human rights. Those principles are violated in most African countries, for on the one hand democratic debate is denied, and on the other the foreigner guards his interests. Certainly Africa has its problems and dangers. It is here, perhaps, the debate should be centered, for the dangers cannot justify contempt for the sovereignty of the people. Senegal, Nigeria, and quite recently Tunisia, have become examples of sound political change towards stable democratic institutions.

Democracy is not manifested solely at the level of opinion trends, through a multiparty system or political pluralism. On this subject it is my opinion that two or three political trends are sufficient to establish a climate of democratic debate, and to assure rotation in office with a clear choice for voters. Democracy does not exclude strong authority, or more precisely a strong executive who must meet particular situations, as is often the case in less developed countries; but care must be taken not to confuse strong power, limited by clear constitutional provisions, with dictatorship.

Rotation in office is not the only expression of democracy, which can be expanded by decentralization. By enabling regions to manage themselves as to specific matters, we give them political responsibilities before local populations. That may be an overriding necessity for countries of vast area in which overcentralization favors a minority of urban dwellers at the expense of the rural majority.

Cultural needs can also be an important element of democracy. In this context is found the idea of integration starting from basic historical communities, which must not be ignored. I have developed this theme in "Le Zaire de demain." Wherever disregard of basic communities has favored extremes of jacobinism, there has been resounding failure. Mass support will be easier to attain from the starting point of basic communities. National consensus, today lacking in African states, will be regained thanks to that very community spirit which makes for national identity.

Political changes in the world at large, and particularly in Africa, are such that the debate which is the theme of this article is becoming urgent and important.

Man in all epochs is born free, and he has fought and paid with his life for his freedom.

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

DEATHS IN PRISON--The "Zairian Committee" of opposition members exiled in Belgium, in a statement issued Friday 23 December in Brussels, declared some 30 prisoners have died of starvation in Zairian prisons, and several dozen others are in desperate condition. Funds to buy food for the prisoners reportedly have not been increased since the 486 percent devaluation of Zairian currency on 10 September (AFP) [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 25-26 Dec 83 p 3] 6145

DENIAL OF PRISONER'S DEATHS--The Zairian Embassy in Paris on Sunday 25 December denied charges by the "Zairian Committee" that some 30 prisoners have died of starvation in Kinshasa. The Zairian charge d'affaires declared: "It is time the world knew that behind the Zairian Committee is an interest group claiming to be composed of Zairian opposition members, and whose sole purpose is to undermine efforts undertaken by President Mobutu Sese Seko to reform economic and social conditions in his country." (AFP) [Excerpt] [Paris LE MONDE in French 27 Dec 83 p 4] 6145

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BRIEFS

REFUGEES IN RESTRICTED AREAS--Minister of State for Home Affairs, Chief (Nessie Nkomishi), has said that refugees being kept in Zambia have no access to firearms, because they are kept mostly in restricted areas. Speaking in parliament, when she answered questions concerning refugees in the country, the minister also said her ministry was not aware of any poaching activities engaged in by some refugees, as claimed by some members of parliament. She said there were 103,306 refugees in Zambia scattered at locations including (Mahera) in North Western Province, (Wenyukwanyikwa) in Western Province, and in urban areas. Chief (Nessie Nkomishi) said those in restricted areas have to seek permission to leave their camps, and are issued with identity cards by her ministry because they are not allowed to wonder about. [Text]
[MB261000 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Jan 84]

CSO: 3400/586

BRIEFS

CUBAN-NAMIBIAN LINKAGE REJECTED--West German delegates visiting Zimbabwe say a Cuban withdrawal from Angola should not be linked to Namibian independence. The leader of the parliamentary delegation, Alwin Bruck, says that his government wants both East and West to boycott South Africa entirely, and they should all do it at the same time. Bruck says West Germany was not aware of how bad South Africa's destabilization efforts were until the delegation met with Lesotho's minister of foreign affairs. The delegation will visit Zambia and Angola before returning to West Germany. [Text] [MB271942 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 27 Jan 84]

MUTARE CITY COUNCIL RESIGNATION--ZANU-PF chairman for Manicaland Province, Comrade Edgar Tekere, has applauded Tuesday's resignation of the Mutare City Council. Comrade Tekere told ZIANA that he is glad that the council dissolved, because the electorate did not reconcile with the elected officials. He said he does not want to lead a divided city. Comrade Tekere said in his capacity as chairman of the province, he will investigate allegations of corruption leveled against the outgoing council. The resignation of the council, together with that of the mayor, Councillor Davidson Jahwi, came in the wake of demonstrations against the council by women recently. The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, said yesterday that he sees nothing wrong with the women's demonstration because they were seeking the removal of a council they no longer wish to have. [Text] [MB260916 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Jan 84]

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